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BOGACHEV VIEWS U.S. HISTORICAL STAND ON TEST BANS

LD071601 Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 7 TASS -- Military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Thirty years ago, on May 10, 1957, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR proposed to the United States Congress and the British Parliament to adopt agreed-upon measures leading to a termination of nuclear weapon tests.

The discussion of the problem of banning nuclear tests has a long history and abounds in examples of most diverse and often contradictory arguments set forth by Washington against the Soviet proposals to stop tests. Very often the United States went back on its own proposals and frustrated a mutually acceptable solution of the problem.

Take for example May 1957. With the knowledge of President Eisenhower the United States representative in the disarmament subcommittee Harold Stassen presented to the Soviet representative a memorandum containing some proposals which could turn out to be mutually acceptable. But representatives of the Pentagon and also the British Government, which was preparing to develop its own hydrogen bomb, opposed an agreement on banning nuclear explosions. So as a result Harold Stassen was asked by the United States President to resign. And already in July 1957 the then secretary of state of the United States John Foster Dulles announced Washington's intentions to continue nuclear tests.

The signing in 1963 of the treaty on prohibiting nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, under water and in outer space was a major success of the peace forces. But even after that the opponents of lowering the level of military confrontation continued their vicious campaign against stopping underground tests, against a general and complete prohibition of nuclear explosions.

In the course of more than eighteen months, from August 6, 1985, the Soviet Union observed a unilateral moratorium on all nuclear tests striving to set a good example to other countries and giving Washington a chance to ponder the consequences of a drastic destabilisation of the military-political situation as a result of an intensification of the arms race. But even in that period the United States continued intensive nuclear weapon tests at the range in Nevada, thus challening world public opinion.

Now Washington says that the prohibition of nuclear tests is its "long-term" aim and that it can be attained "only after the elimination of all nuclear arms", that is only when nothing needing testing is left. If we are to believe Washington it comes out that to make nuclear arms obsolete it is necessary first to modernise them and that to make them "impotent" it is necessary to increase the yield and accuracy of American nuclear warheads.

The Soviet Union is deeply convinced that a termination of nuclear explosions would sharply slow down the nuclear arms race and make it possible to embark in practice on the road of eliminating these weapons of mass annihilation. The USSR is ready for any form of negotiations with the United States on the question of ending nuclear tests, for any variant of accord -- if only this would bring closer the attainment of agreement on the banning of nuclear explosions.

BESSMERTNYKH SAYS NEW THINKING 'IMPERATIVE'

LD071251 Moscow TASS in English 1221 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] New York May 7 TASS -- The general discussion has come to an end at the session of the U.N. Disarmament Commission, which is under way here. The discussion has shown that the world community is becoming more determined to come over to real disarmament, particularly nuclear. In this context many delegations declared for an early conclusion of the Soviet-American agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe which would be the starting point for nuclear disarmament, the first treaty which would demonstrate the escalation of the arms race could be stopped.

The head of the Soviet delegation to the session, Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Aleksandr Bessmertnykh said that to turn the dangerous tendencies back it is essential for all to be profoundly aware that it is imperative to apply new thinking to solution of complicated issues dealing with security. This means it is essential to display intellectual daring, to reconsider the hardened stereotypes, to put them to doubt from the present-day positions, and if necessary, to reject them.

It is also essential, in our opinion, to understand that solution of these tasks can be promoted by all states: Socialist and capitalist, big and small, nuclear and non-nuclear, aligned and non-aligned. The interdependence of the present-day world is such, said Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, that all the peoples are like a string of mountain climbers on a slope. They can either go on ascending together to the top or fall into a precipice together.

The Soviet representative drew attention to the Soviet stance's inner logic on problems of nuclear disarmament and preventing the arms race from spreading to outer space, and also to the USSR's new proposals on questions being considered by the commission. It was noted that the Security Council's mechanism could also be used with a view of drawing up concrete measures in nuclear disarmament. Specifically, its special meeting could be held to consider the question of ending the arms race and of nuclear disarmament.

Our advanced position towards limitation of naval armaments and spreading confidence-building measures to sea and ocean areas provides for the USSR's readiness to introduce, on a mutual basis with the USA and other nuclear powers, the practice of notifying that there are no nuclear weapons on board their warships which will stay in agreed upon areas of seas and oceans free from nuclear weapons. Besides, the question of preventing terrorism, piracy, etc. could also be considered within the framework of decisions on ensuring guarantees of safety of sea lanes, on politico-legal and military-technical measures of confidence and non-use of force on seas.

The U.S. Disarmament Commission can make a considerable contribution to elaborating common approaches towards principles, methods and means of control, since reliable comprehensive verification is an inalienable component part of all efforts aimed at carrying out measures of building up confidence and reduction of armaments. It is called upon to become one of the most important guarantees of a comprehensive system of international security, firmness of its foundations in the military sphere.

Considering the role of control as one of the most important means of ensuring stability and security, the Soviet delegation proposed that a conference of representatives of the public and non-governmental organizations be held in 1988 within the framework of the world campaign for disarmament. It would specially be devoted to problems of control over observance of agreements on limitation of armaments and on disarmament.

The Soviet Union advocates that the entire mechanism of considering questions of disarmament be invigorated and put on an efficient track and believes that this would be promoted by completion of the commission's elaboration of concrete recommendations and proposals pertaining to the U.S. role in that area.

It is very essential, stressed the head of the Soviet delegation, to be able to find a correct, harmonious combination of national interests and the interests of establishing a comprehensive system of international security. It is not easy to rise over the narrow interests, including class, bloc and state ones, and channel the efforts at ensuring the collective interest, which is the survival of humanity. But this nevertheless should be done.

VORONTSOV VISITS FRG, DISCUSSES GENEVA TALKS

LD061853 Moscow TASS in English 1829 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Bonn May 6 TASS -- USSR first deputy foreign minister, head of the Soviet delegation to the Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms Yuliy Vorontsov met today in Bonn with FRG Minister for Foreign Affairs Hans-Dietrich Genscher and head of the foreign policy department of the office of the federal chancellor, Horst Teltschik. Yuliy Vorontsov informed them of the stand of the USSR and the state of affairs at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva in connection with the opening of the eighth round. Yuliy Vorontsov also had a conversation with member of the board and the presidium of the board of the social democratic party of Germany, chairman of the Bundestag arms control and disarmament sub-committee Egon Bahr.

At a news conference held at the USSR Embassy in the FRG Yuliy Vorontsov answered numerous questions of local and foreign journalists mainly about the new Soviet proposals on disarmament, including the elimination of USSR and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, and on shorter range-missiles.

Further Details

LD062004 Hamburg DPA in German 1803 GMT 6 May 87

[Excerpts] Bonn (DPA) -- According to Yuliy Vorontsov, chief Soviet negotiator at the disarmament negotiations in Geneva, the Soviet Government is "firmly convinced" that it will be able to sign a treaty with the United States on a zero option for longer-range INF missiles this year.

Vorontsov, who is also first deputy foreign minister of the USSR, said at a news conference in Bonn today that for his government the zero option for the longer range INF systems is the "main goal." If they succeed at the same time in negotiating a zero solution for the shorter-range INF missiles "this would please us." But it is in no way a condition. [passage omitted]

Vorontsov returned to Geneva this evening and, with the remark to the Bonn correspondents that he had briefed them to the same extent as he had his official partners in the talks, left behind an impression of unusual openness.

The two draft treaties of the superpowers in Geneva on the longer-range INF solution lie close together "and can also be fully coordinated," Vorontsov said. He gave examples of the still open verification questions. The United States believes that verification of a halt to production and its continued observance is adequate from "outside the factory gate." The Soviets want verification in the factories.

Moscow wants to make the scrapping a media event. Vorontsov announced invitations to the Bonn correspondents for early 1988 to watch the scrapping of the SS-20 missiles, because "the world has not yet experienced the start of the destruction of nuclear weapons."

In the caes of the old "German" Pershings, the Soviets are only interested in the nuclear warheads. Vorontsov made it clear that the nuclear arming comes under U.S. great power responsibility and is thus also part of what is being negotiated on in Geneva. The 72 type 1-A rockets themselves and their launch ramps, which are in the possession of the Bundeswehr, are, like any possible conventional warheads, of no interest to Moscow, he said.

The Soviet chief negotiator, one of Moscow's most respected diplomats, also expressed the opinion that it would be possible to sign the longer-range INF zero option, under which 100 missiles would remain on each side outside Europe, by September, or October at the latest. The U.S. side also believes this; Autumn is the last date for achieving ratification by summer 1988, because otherwise the U.S. presidential election campaign and the installation of a new government in 1989 would postpone disarmament by at least 2 years. The Soviet diplomat thus agrees with the timescale generally accepted in the West.

Vorontsov reaffirmed Moscow's interest in conventional disarmament and accused the West of negotiating too hesitantly in Vienna on a mandate for this. On the longer-range INF zero option the chief negotiator said that the principal clauses of the treaty have been in existence since the Soviet-U.S. summit in Reykjavik in October 1986. In Geneva it is only a matter of filling them in technically.

When the question of an agreement on the shorter-range INF missiles comes up he hopes that the Federal Government's final stance will be "put forward with one voice." Here, however, he also made clear Moscow's opinion that the two superpowers could find a basis for understanding relatively easily. Here the same scheme could be applied as in the longer-range INF sphere, with a remaining stock of missiles with equal, global upper limits.

FALIN INTERVIEWED ON BONN'S DISARMAMENT STANCE

LD072124 Hamburg DPA in German 2115 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Moscow (DPA) -- According to Valentin Falin, the Soviet expert on Germany and head of the official news agency NOVOSTI, the Bonn government's statement on disarmament does not meet the expectations of the Soviet Union. In an interview with DPA in Moscow, Falin made clear criticism of the statement by Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who approved a zero solution for medium-range missiles of longer range (1,000-5,000 km) but reserved his decision on medium-range missiles of shorter range (500-1,00 km)

"We at least expected that the federal republic would support the concept of removing medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles with nuclear warheads from Europe in order to strengthen joint security and open the way for a radical, qualitative disarmament in all other significant area," Falin said.

However, the chancellor was not prepared to do this. He said that NATO could not do without nuclear weapons in the foreseeable future. The government statement is inconsistent in its premises and its conclusions. Falin described the conventional superiority of the East stressed by Kohl as "artificial." "If the French and Spanish weapons are added in, there no longer is any superiority." Moreover, Moscow has more than once made proposals for conventional disarmament, which so far have not been answered by the West.

Falin went on to say that the problem of the Pershing 1A missiles in possession of the Bundeswehr, which can be fitted with U.S. nuclear warheads, is a "very primary question." Bonn obviously does not want to include these systems in a solution on the shorter-range medium-range missiles. Falin said, however, that this is a problem because the United States of America is carrying out "double bookkeeping" and counting sometimes carrier systems, sometimes warheads on weapon systems entirely as they like. He stressed, however, that in the case of the Pershing 1A's the Soviet Union is only concerned about the nuclear warheads. "Please keep these missiles in your arsenal, if they have such significance for the federal republic, but without nuclear warheads; otherwise there will come into being a...fifth nuclear power in Europe."

Falin accused the federal government of wanting to avoid a clear position by wishing to wait until the submission of a Soviet draft treaty before making a decision on the shorter-range medium-range missiles. At the same time, the NOVOSTI head said that in his opinion an interim solution is also possible. The best solution is the immediate elimination of this weapon category. However, if this is not possible, one could also consider a gradual solution in two or three stages.

The federal republic has a primary role in solving the existing problems, because it is on its soil that the main elements of the U.S. medium-range missiles potential are stationed. Apart from sharp criticism, Falin noted positively that Kohl said the security of the federal republic should be based more strongly on coexistence [miteinander] than on confrontation [gegeneinander].

The visit to the USSR by President Richard von Weizsaecker, announced for 6-11 July, will provide the opportunity to speak about many things calmly, and in an objective and balanced way. The former ambassador to Bonn said he hoped the visit will lead to better understanding and an unprejudiced assessment of the wishes and aims of both sides. One will then be able to look with greater confidence to the future. "I want that, and for that reason I wish the visit success."

VIENNA EMBASSY NEWS CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

LD071734 Moscow TASS in English 1658 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Vienna May 7 TASS -- A press conference for Austrian and foreign correspondents was held here today at the Soviet Embassy. It was addressed by the Soviet special representative ambassador at large Vladimir Suslov and the Soviet ambassador in Austria Gennadiy Shikin.

They outlined the Soviet position on questions of nuclear disarmament in Europe, acquainted the journalists with the situation at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms and replied to numerous questions.

RETIRED NATO, PACT GENERALS END VIENNA MEETING

LD071845 Moscow TASS in English 1826 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Vienna May 7 TASS -- The fourth meeting of retired generals and admirals of member countries of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and NATO ended here today. It was attended by retired senior officers from Bulgaria, Britain, Hungary, Greece, Holland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. The Soviet Union was represented by a delegation of the "Retired Soviet Generals and Admirals for Peace and Disarmament" group under the Soviet Peace Committee.

Work was conducted at plenary meetings and in commissions that studied questions of global, regional and national security, effective steps to rid Europe of nuclear arms and questions of continuing and consolidating the process of confidence-building within the framework of the Helsinki Final Act.

The participants in the meeting noted the importance of the new thinking in the nuclear age. They stressed that the existing proposals in the field of disarmament, if adopted, could bring about a radical change both in political and military relations between the two military alliances in Europe as well as at the talks on arms control. It is necessary to press for the new thinking to be practiced, for the creation as a result of this new structures of security and the abolution of the deeply entrenched notion that new types of weapons and military strength supposedly can guarantee security.

The meeting adopted a concluding document which says that the establishment and maintenance of regular contacts between the commander-in-chief of the joint armed forces of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and the supreme commander-in-chief of the Joint NATO Armed Forces in Europe would be a substantial contribution to new thinking in the military field. Such contacts would ensure a regular exchange of views on problems of overall security concerning the military-political situation in Europe.

The question of liquidating the military organisations of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO should be considered as an important step in the formulation of a new concept of European security.

The particpants in the meeting declared for the elimination of nuclear weapons and noted that this process should be accompanied by a drastic reduction of conventional armaments and armed forces because their present high level poses a threat to European and general security.

It was agreed to hold the fifth meeting of retired generals and admirals of Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries in 1988 and to discuss at it the question of an alternative policy of global security.

IZVESTIYA CITES ROGERS ON MISSILE-FREE EUROPE

PM071549 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 May 87 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report under the rubric "Reports from Abroad": "B. Rogers Stands Up For 'Deterrence'"]

[Text] London, 3 May -- The prospect of freeing the European continent of medium-range and short-range nuclear missiles which has become a real possibility as the result of the latest Soviet peace initiatives is clearly not to the liking of General Bernard Rogers, supreme commander NATO Allied Forces Europe.

In an interview with the newspaper THE GUARDIAN, he claimed that as a result of the Soviet proposals Western Europe now supposedly finds itself..."on a slippery slope" down which, heaven forbid, it could slide...into a "nuclear-free abyss." If we allow the Soviet Union to draw us in this direction without first settling the question of the balance of conventional armed forces, B. Rogers warns, the West Europeans will find themselves "vulnerable to blackmail, the threat of coercion," and so forth. Consequently it is essential to preserve the "deterrence factor," the NATO supreme commander said.

B. Rogers went on to speak in favor of refusing to dismantle the 100 U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles until an agreement is reached to "rectify the imbalance" between East and West in chemical and conventional weapons. He also said that approximately 80 Pershing-2 missiles should be retained, "modernizing" them into short-range Pershing-1B missiles.

According to B. Rogers, the U.S. F-111 bombers based in Britain and the British Tornado aircraft capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear weapons must be an integral part of any "deterrence factor" worth having. The British and French national nuclear forces must also remain inviolable, Rogers stressed.

It is interesting that on the eve of the interview with the U.S. general, THE GUARDIAN carried a report by the Bradford University Center for the Study of Peace Problems whose authors conclude that the NATO countries are not lagging behind but even have an advantage over the Warsaw Pact in whole groups of conventional means of warfare and, in particular, in terms of warships and sea-based aircraft. This must be taken into consideration when analyzing the military situation in Europe, the report noted, and attempts to discuss any "imbalance" in forces in Europe in this sphere "appear quite unfounded."

WEINBERGER STATEMENT PROVES SDI 'OFFENSIVE'

LD071326 Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Washington May 7 TASS — The Reagan administration's assertions that its notorious "Star Wars" program is "purely defensive" hae been effectively disproved by no other than Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

In a summary of a classified report he has sent to Senator Dan Quayle, the Pentagon chief said a realization of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" could greatly add to possibilities to employ the entire system as a conventional weapon either on a short-term or a long-term basis.

He said components of the partially space-based missile defense could be used to knock out enemy planes, ships and tanks.

He thus made it clear that an SDI system could be used as an offensive weapon.

This explains very well why in its chase of global military superiority Washington is forging ahead with its ominous program for outer space militarization.

The White House has requested Congress to endorse an unprecedented 5.7 billion dollars in funding for the project in fiscal 1988.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON LATEST PACT INITIATIVES

PM061049 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Apr 87 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "In Fraternal Unity"]

[Text] The socialist community states are united by their common fundamental interests and aims and by the bonds of their extensive, multifaceted cooperation. The objective need for the increasing rapprochement of the socialist countries stems from the very essence of socialism. The community is growing in strength and ensures reliable protection for its peoples' creative work.

The heart of political cooperation between the fraternal countries has been and still is the practice of collaboration between the ruling communist and worker parties and the improvement and renewal of its methods and forms that make it possible to efficiently and amicably discuss the entire complex of problems relating to socialist building and coordinate a joint foreign policy course. A special role in this is played by regular meetings between the leaders of the fraternal parties and states.

The official friendly visit to the CSSR 9-11 April this year by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev served as a powerful demonstration of the unity and cohesion of Soviet and Czechoslovak Communists and the peoples of the USSR and CSSR.

Opinions were exchanged on topical issues of international politics and the implementation of the policy collectively developed by the socialist community countries and actively conducted by every fraternal country during the recent meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary and W. Jaruzelski, PZPR Central Committee first secretary and Polish State Council chairman. "We highly value the opportunity," M.S. Gorbachev noted in his speech at a breakfast in honor of the Polish leader, "to collaborate with Poland and other Warsaw Pact states in the vast amount of intensive work aimed at ridding Europe of its nuclear arsenals, creating a favorable atmosphere for all-around, mutually advantageous cooperation, and strengthening peace and security on the basis that has taken shape as a result of World War II and postwar development."

A special role in the struggle to strengthen security is played by the socialist states' defense alliance — the Warsaw Pact. As long as the imperialist military bloc NATO exists, the CPSU program stresses, the party considers it essential to contribute in every way possible to improving the activity of the Warsaw Pact as an instrument of collective defense against imperialism's aggressive aspirations and of the joint struggle for lasting peace and the expansion of international cooperation. The soldiers of the fraternal Warsaw Pact armies firmly guard peace and socialism in a single, inviolable combat formation. For as long as international reaction whips up the arms race, and until it rejects its policy of social revenge and "crusades" against socialism, the CPSU and the Soviet state will do everything necessary to maintain the defense might of our country and the socialist community at the proper level. Soviet people, it is stressed in the CPSU Central Committee address to the Soviet nation in connection with the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, can be sure that under no circumstances will we ever allow imperialism to gain military superiority.

In collaboration with other countries the Warsaw Pact states are determined to strive for the formation of a comprehensive international peace and security system and will continue to promote the expansion and intensification of international cooperation in all spheres -- military, political, economic, and humanitarian -- with the aim of creating such a system. This was stated in the communique of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee session held in Moscow in spring this year.

The comprehensive proposals put forward by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in Prague and in his conversation with U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz are clear evidence of the socialist community countries' readiness to really seek ways to create a truly safe world. In putting forward these proposals the Soviet Union is trying to find compromise solutions to complex problems and is ready to seek mutually acceptable solutions to the entire complex of problems relating to nuclear disarmament and the settlement of regional conflicts. Great interest has been aroused throughout the world by the new Soviet peace initiatives on the questions of eliminating medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles on the European Continent, as well as the proposal to discuss and resolve the question of tactical nuclear forces in Europe, including tactical missiles. The implementation of these proposals would make it possible to considerably lower the level of miliary confrontation between East and West and increase peoples' security.

While fully supporting the new Soviet peace initiatives, the other fraternal countries of the socialist community also make their own considerable contribution to the struggle against the threat of war. The proposals made by the GDR and the CSSR to create a zone free of chemical weapons in central Europe and also to form a nuclear-free corridor along the border between the Warsaw Pact and NATO states are aimed at strengthening European security. The Soviet Union has stated its willingness to remove all Soviet nuclear means from this corridor on a reciprocal basis and guarantee and respect its nonnuclear status. Broad prospects of improving the atmosphere on the European Continent are opened up by the proposal put forward in Budapest by the Warsaw Pact states to considerably reduce armed froces, tactical nuclear weapons, and conventional arms in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

The undeviating implementation of the socialist community countries' jointly developed policy reveals the fraternal states' increasingly strong unity and cohesion and the enhanced role played by the socialist countries' military-political alliance in the struggle to strengthen peace, security, and international cooperation. The course of the competition between socialism and capitalism and the future of world civilization depend to an enormous extent on the strength of the socialist community, the success of every fraternal country's creative activity, and the degree of purposefulness and coordination in their actions.

The CPSU Central Committee's May Day slogan is like a call to battle to the whole of the world today:

Fraternal greetings to the peoples of the socialist countries!

Long live world socialism -- the mighty and influential force of the present time! May the community of socialist states grow stronger!

GERASIMOV FOREIGN MINISTRY NEWS CONFERENCE 7 MAY

Geneva Arms Talks

LD071357 Moscow TASS in English 1349 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 7 TASS -- The 8th round of the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons which started in Geneva on May 5, is being held under qualitatively new conditions: After the Soviet Union put forth new initiatives aimed at reducing and eliminating a part of Soviet and U.S. nuclear arsenals, Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate said at a briefing here today.

Earlier, the Soviet side introduced a draft treaty on liquidating medium-range missiles in Europe for the consideration of the U.S. delegation and set out a constructive position on tackling the issues of shorter-range missiles, which fully obviates obstacles to concluding a treaty on medium-range missiles.

The USSR also proposed that, along with drafting a treaty on medium-range missiles, the sides should develop "key provisions" for future agreements on issues of strategic offensive weapons, strengthening the conditions of the ABM Treaty, as well as for the start of talks on ending nuclear tests. The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that all these documents, prepared in good time, could become a subject and the main political result of another summit of the Soviet and U.S. leaders.

The Soviet proposals based on the Reykjavik agreed understandings take into account concerns of the U.S. side and positions of European states, said the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman. Now it is up to the American side to respond. The progress at the talks achieved at the previous round depends now on whether the U.S. side can manifest realism, abandon tenets and stereotypes of the pre-Reykjavik period and develop a new mentality.

Radioactivity After U.S. Tests

LD071320 Moscow TASS in English 1309 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 7 TASS -- Competent Soviet bodies have thoroughly checked the results of the analysis of samples of atmospheric aerosols taken outside U.S. territory in the period from February 20 to 25.

Radioactive isotopes have been detected in the samples. Their existence in the atmosphere can only be attributed to a nuclear explosion, Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, told a briefing for journalists here today.

The composition of isotopes in the samples showed that their emergence had not been due to an accident at an atomic power plant. Besides, no country except the United States conducted nuclear explosions in the period before the sample-taking.

The available data made it unequivocally clear that radioactive substances spotted outside the United States were a result of nuclear explosions detonated at the Nevada test site on February 3 and 11, 1987.

Radioactive isotopes were detected in the atmosphere close to the United States late in March. Analysis of the composition of these isotopes and the route of the movement of air masses in which they had been found showed that their source, as in the previous instance, was the March 18 nuclear blast at the American Nevada test site.

The instances when radioactive substances crossed U.S. territorial boundaries as a result of nuclear tests violated clause 1(B) of Article 1 of the 1963 Moscow Treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, outer space and underwater.

The Soviet Government resolutely denounced the violation by the U.S. of its international treaty commitments, said the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman.

These violations were a cause of special concern to the USSR due to the systematic character which they were acquiring.

The above-said violations of the 1963 treaty were not the only instances. The American side's attention was repeatedly drawn in the past to similar cases of radioactive fallout carried beyond U.S. national territory.

The Soviet Government called on the United States to do everything necessary to strictly observe provisions of this important treaty.

"The reasons why the U.S. Government, shortly after the detection of radioactivity in the atmosphere as a result of the February, 1987 American nuclear explosions, blamed the Soviet Union for the violations are becoming obvious," Gerasimov said.

"Taking advantage of the occasion, the Soviet Union reaffirms its readiness to resolve in a cardinal way the problem of nuclear testing by banning it once and for all.

This step would preclude similar incidents in the future.

The U.S. stubborn unwillingness to agree to the termination of nuclear blasts conducted with a view to testing new types of nuclear weapons, including under the SDI programme, is blocking advancement along this major direction of restricting the arms race."

U.S.-Pakistan Ties

LD071421 Moscow TASS in English 1352 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 7 TASS -- The U.S. is assigning a special role to Pakistan in its military-strategic plans and is using its territory as a place d'armes for exerting military pressure on countries of southern and south-west Asia, as well as for waging an undeclared war against democratic Afghanistan. This was stated at a briefing here today by Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Pakistan receives modern weapons from the U.S. specifically, F-16 planes capable of carrying nuclear weapons, Stinger missiles and radioelectronic devices. Pakistan can create an atomic bomb today, of course, not without outside assitance, and the Pakistani president openly spoke about this possibility. Reports began to appear recently on talks between Washington and Islamabad about the delivery to Pakistan of AWACS planes which would be handled by U.S. military personnel.

The point at issue is the deployment on Pakistani soil, on terms of property or lease, of modern surveillance and control facilities. In any case it will lead to a permanent presence of U.S. servicemen and the appearance of new types of U.S. military hardware on territory of that country.

Initiators of the deployment of the AWACS system in Pakistan would like to ensure control and surveillance of the areas and air space adjacent to that country and at the same time to be given a possibility to engage in dangerous military activities against neighbouring countries. It would be an unfriendly step with regard to neighbouring countries showing that Pakistan is being drawn even further into the dangerous strategy of the U.S. in Asia and that it is undermining by itself its status of a non-aligned country.

The recent developments constitute a new attempt to heighten tension in southern and south-west Asia which, as a matter of fact, affects the security of many countries, including India, Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. They show the intention to further undermine relations between Pakistan and its neighbours, to strengthen mistrust in their relations.

All this is taking place at the time when the program of national reconciliation announced by the Afghan Government in combination with perceptible progress made at the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva held with a mediation of Diego Cordovez, special representative of U.N. secretary general, create a real possibility of achieving a settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan in the near future and of bringing the overall situation in the region back to normal.

The intention announced by Washington to satisfy Pakistan's request on delivering AWACS planes to it is nothing but another manifestation of U.S. neoglobalist intentions in that region. It should be very well understood that the escalation of unfriendly actions against Pakistan's neighbours, including the Soviet Union, cannot remain unnoticed, the spokesman of the USSR Foreign Ministry said.

KASHLEV ASSESSES PROGRESS OF VIENNA CSCE TALKS

PM071311 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Interview with Yu.B. Kashlev, head of the Soviet delegation to the Vienna meeting of CSCE participant states, by correspondent N. Novikov: "The Third Stage of the Vienna Meeting" -- first graf is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] Vienna -- Next to the complex of the International Congress Center on the banks of the Danube a new building -- the Vienna Conference Center -- has been built. It was designed by the Viennese architect J. Staber. On 5 May the third stage of the Vienna meeting has opened there. Journalists are saying that the remarkable new building cannot but contribute to the delegations' more dynamic constructive work and the ending on schedule of this important international forum. I asked the head of the Soviet delegation to the Vienna meeting, Ambassador Yu.B. Kashlev, to tell us about the tasks of the third stage and the prospects for the work of the forum, which opened last November.

[Kashlev] During the two preceding stages the implementation of the Helsinki and Madrid accords was discussed and proposals aimed at the further development of the all-European process were introduced. During the third stage, which opened 5 May and will take about 3 months, the delegations from the 35 countries are to elaborate the meeting's final document. It is to enshrine everything positive that has been achieved since Helsinki, as well new accords on joint steps to strengthen security and develop the states' cooperation. The proposals submitted on this account -- and there are some 140 of them -- provide a good basis for the constructive work of the Vienna meeting.

The socialist countries have submitted a large number of important proposals. These include above all Poland's proposal for extending the mandate of the Stockholm conference which paves the way for the parallel discussion of questions of real disarmament and confidence-building measures in the military sphere; Czechoslovakia's proposal for convening an economic forum; and Bulgaria's proposal for an ecological forum. The Soviet proposal for a conference on the development of humanitarian cooperation to be held in Moscow and a number of other proposals have attracted considerable interest.

Questions of military security are one of the central issues at the Vienna meeting. Let me return to the Polish proposal. It is based on the Warsaw Pact countries' proposals. The USSR and its allies have put forward an integrated program for talks on disarmament in our continent encompassing all types of nuclear missile weapons, armed forces, and conventional arms.

In actual fact, it is a concrete program for the demilitarization of Europe, a program inspired by the new political thinking, a program that creates a unique opportunity for at long last getting disarmament in Europe out of the impasse. A decision on opening such large-scale talks as proposed by M.S. Gorbachev could have been adopted at the Vienna meeting of CSCE participant states' foreign ministers.

Regrettably, the West has so far failed to reply to the Polish proposal, which paves the way to the parallel discussion of questions of real disarmament and the elaboration of confidence-building measures on which agreement was not reached during the initial stage of the conference.

A great number of proposals on questions of trade, economic, scientific, and technical cooperation and environmental protection has been submitted at the Vienna meeting by both socialist and capitalist countries' delegations. In our view, they create good opportunities for the elaboration of a concerted approach to the solution of all these problems.

There have also been quite a few proposals in the sphere of the development of humanitarian cooperation. I have already mentioned the Soviet proposal. We are hoping that the countries that emphasize their interest in these problems will back our proposal. It would provide an opportunity to discuss the issues of humanitarian cooperation in the broad context of human rights seriously and in depth with a view to achieving practical results. There are proposals for organizing a number of events in the sphere of information and culture in the period between the Vienna and subsequent meetings.

We believe that they could become the subject of serious discussion and possible accords. It is important, however, to ensure that propaganda or other short-term considerations do not overshadow or push into the background the objectives of cooperation in humanitarian fields common to all mankind -- the strengthening of trust and mutual understanding between peoples and the all-around enrichment of the individual. So far we are coming up against attempts to discuss the topics of humanitarian cooperation and human rights in confrontational terms. The U.S. delegation is displaying particular zeal in this respect.

Life, Yu.B. Kashlev said in concluding his interview, is demonstrating with utmost clarity that the peoples of Europe and beyond expect active, vigorous actions from the participants in the Vienna meeting. They are pinning their hopes for strengthened peace and international security and expanded cooperation between countries and peoples on this important international forum.

NATO 'DRAGON HAMMER-87' EXERCISES CRITICIZED

LD070843 Moscow TASS in English 0710 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 7 TASS -- The Soviet national daily PRAVDA said today that "the Mediterranean can and must be a sea of peace".

In a comment on large-scale military maneuvers started by NATO there under the code name "Dragon Hammer '87", it criticized the war games as a "tool for blackmail and political pressure."

"The situation in the Mediterranean is far from tranquil. But as soon as it seems to Washington strategists that the smoldering coals of disagreements and confrontation have begun to go out, they fan the flames immediately again either with another show of force or with direct aggressive action," the article said.

It supported the observation by pointing to the history of Washington's power play against Libya, with over 20 exercises close to its shores in recent years as well as barbarous bombing runs on the cities of Tripoli and Banghazi.

Having declared the Mediterranean a zone of its interests, Washington kept building up its military potential there, PRAVDA said, adding that both U.S. and NATO bases were being used for the purposes.

Seventeen of those bases, it noted, had nuclear weapons controlled by the Americans.

The paper also pointed to the U.S. 6th Fleet plying Mediterranean waters as a permanent factor for destabilizing the situation in the region. Together with the U.S. and NATO bases the fleet formed a joint military force serving U.S. imperial ambitions in the Mediterranean, PRAVDA explained.

"The United States has ignored mounting demands by littoral nations for the Mediterranean to be made a sea of peace, goodneighbourly relations and mutually advantageous international cooperation.

"Soviet proposals for extending agreed confidence-building measures to cover that region and renouncing nuclear weapons in Mediterranean countries and for the nuclear powers to pledge not to use nuclear weapons against any Mediterranean nation refusing to accept such arms on its territory have also been left without a constructive response by the United States," PRAVDA concluded.

Paper Views Maneuvers

PM071227 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 May 87 First Edition p 3

["Military-Political Commentary" by V. Vinogradov "Dangerous Game"]

[Text] The vast expanses of the Mediterranean -- from Italy to Turkey -- will be the location for the combined NATO maneuvers that have begun under the code name Dragon Hammer-87. The bulletin NOUVELLE ATLANTIQUE has reported that naval, air, and airborne units from Britain, the Netherlands, Italy, the United States, Turkey, and also France will rehearse "joint combat operations" in the course of these maneuvers. Here the main "battles" will get under way in the East Mediterranean.

This cannot fail to arouse concern. For the situation in that region remains extremely tense as it is. There are several reasons for this. Zionist Israel, underpinned by all possible U.S. support, is not creasing air and sea piracy against sovereign Lebanon. In its turn the United States itself has concentrated considerable 6th Fleet forces in the east and south Mediterranean, including two aircraft carrier groupings. Both Lebanon and Libya, countries Washington groundlessly accuses of "terrorism" and threatens to "teach them a serious lesson," are in their sights.

Militarist intrigues are not dying down in Cyprus either. The British military bases located in the southern part of the island have long been in a state of increased readiness. The armed forces of not only Britain but also the United States, which London has permitted to use those military installations, have been seen to be active there. As for the northern part of Cyprus, occupied by Turkish troops, the Pentagon has commissioned several military installations there, including the largest military airport in the Near East, according to REUTERS data, at Lefkoniko, and is now able to use them for its own purposes. Incidentally, bases in both parts of Cyprus will be brought into use during the Dragon Hammer-87 maneuvers.

Greece is missing from the list of participants in the maneuvers. This is no accident. Washington is not abandoning its attempts to put very crude pressure on that country, which seeks to pursue an independent foreign policy. People in the U.S. capital evidently can in no way reconcile themselves to the fact that the Greek Government is fully resolved to remove all U.S. and NATO installations from the country's territory, and they want to make Athens reconsider that principled position. At the same time, Turkey has signed with the United States a corresponding agreement under which the Pentagon will keep its military bases on Turkish territory in exchange for military aid.

In the opinion of Athens newspapers, it is precisely in this U.S. approach to the two countries that we should seek the roots of the conflict that almost flared up in the Aegean 6 weeks ago. Things did not go to extremes then, but the tension still remains, and the smallest spark would suffice to cause an explosion. This is why holding such large-scale NATO maneuvers as Dragon Hammer-87 in that region could have very serious consequences.

Washington is planting a fuse in the Aegean, commentators pointed out 6 weeks ago. Now, by organizing militarist games there, the United States is putting a match to that fuse. A very dangerous game!

ABRAMS' REMARKS ON USSR POLICY 'SLANDEROUS'

LD071602 Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 7 TASS -- A verbal representation was made at the Soviet Foreign Ministry today to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow over remarks by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams who lashed out with slanderous charges against the Soviet Union and its foreign policy vis-a-vis Latin American countries and the world at large.

It was said, in particular, that the American side undertook the action at a time when real chances emerged for an agreement between the USSR and the United States on major issues of curbing the arms race and prospects for rectifying Soviet-American relations were becoming clearer.

Under these conditions, Abrams' remarks cannot but be described as a reflection of the attempts by certain circles in the United States to poison the atmosphere and hinder healthy processes in relations between the two countries.

The American official's remarks revealed the intention to intimidate the governments of Latin American nations and prevent them from maintaining and developing normal civilized relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

The United States was seeking to sow disunity among peoples, was carrying out with the aid of mercenaries subversive actions against legitimate governments and pursuing a policy of blackmail and power pressure.

Abrams' remarks were but another confirmation of U.S. commitment to this course.

The Soviet Union, the representation said, had no claims to any special interests in Latin Ameria. "We stand for stronger friendly and mutually beneficial relations with the states in the continent.

The USSR consistently supports a political settlement of the situation in Central America on the basis of the Contadora process." [quotation marks as received]

The American side's attention was drawn in the most serious way to the rude, provocative character of the American official's statement which contradicted the task of the positive development of Soviet-American relations and the consolidation of international security.

ZHOLKVER VIEWS DEFENSE BUDGET, ARMS TREATIES

OW071925 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1015 GMT 6 May 87

["The World Today" program presented by Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] The U.S. House of Representatives has just voted to reduce the U.S. military budget by $23 billion in the next financial year. I would rather not comment on this fact too enthusiastically. First, Congress has still allocated a sufficiently large sum to the Pentagon -- almost $289 billion. Second, the decision by Congress is not final: The military budget is still to be discussed in the Senate which is more sympathetic to Pentagon wishes.

Still, the Congress vote seems noteworthy to me. In my opinion, it reflects a new political thinking that seems to have appeared in Washington. In this respect, Congressman Dellums' speech was very significant. He called on his colleagues to stop the juggling of figures and to concentrate their attention on the main issue -- looking for ways to reduce the danger of nuclear war, reverse the arms race, and solve U.S. economic and social problems by redirecting resources that are now being wasted, as he put it, on unproductive military needs.

Another thing is also noteworthy. Several important amendments were adopted during the debate on the military budget. They urged the administration to strictly observe the strategic arms limitations established by the Soviet-U.S. SALT II treaty, and to adhere to the strict interpretation of the Soviet-U.S. ABM Treaty.

In this regard, I shall recall that the Washington administration, in violation of the SALT II treaty, has lately begun increasing its number of strategic arms, in particular, increasing the number of strategic bombers that can carry cruise missiles. The Pentagon also hopes to start deploying space weapons as a result of the so-called broad interpretation of the ABM Treaty. Congressman Norman Dicks said: We are now not simply speaking about the SALT and AMB Treaties -- the question is whether we are going to allow the uncontrolled strategic arms race to continue.

The majority of Congressmen seem to understand the danger of this course. The U.S. military, however, continues to fight to continue it. The lengthy article by U.S. General Rogers, NATO commander in chief, published in the last issue of NEWSWEEK, attests to this. The gallant general demands that nuclear weapons -- capable, as he said, of reaching the heart of the Soviet Union -- be retained in Western Europe.

The only consolation, it seems, is that -- as has been officially announced -- this very aggressive general will have to retire from his NATO command post this summer.

Generally, they now speak a lot in Washington about the resignations of a number of important officials of the present administration, many of which have already been decided upon although some are still a matter of conjecture. All this is a consequence of the Irangate scandal, which is not only far from its end, but on the contrary seems to be gaining strength. A special commission of the two Congressional houses started hearings on this matter this week. During the hearings -- which are supposed to last until the end of July and possibly until late fall -- at least 50 witnesses are expected to be questioned. The NBC television company, which provided us with this video reportage, considers that -- whichever way the hearings may go -- it is already obvious that it will not bring anything good to Reagan. Indeed, the very first witness, retired General Secord -- who was the key intermediary in the secret arms supply to Iran and in the transfer of the money earned by this means to the gangs of the Nicaraguan contras -- unambiguously said: I have always thought that the administration knew about my activity and approved of it. Secord reported that he had at least three meetings in the White House, including a meeting with Casey, director of the CIA at the time. Casey himself was supposed to testify in the Congressional investigative commissions, but it is too late now: Casey died yesterday.

In this connection, the London FINANCIAL TIMES notes significantly that a great number of secrets of this scandal are buried with Casey, and Congress has inherited a spirit of distrust for the CIA.

REAGAN PLEDGE TO CONTINUE BACKING CONTRAS NOTED

PM071329 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading: "Heart Bleeds for Contras"]

[Text] Washington, 4 May -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan has addressed the annual American Newspaper Publishers Association Convention. "While I am President," he stated, "I do not intend to stop our support for...the freedom-fighters" in Nicaragua. That is how the President describes the contra gangs waging war against the legitimate government. Reagan openly intimated that the administration is ready for a confrontation with Congress if the latter turns down the request for $105 million in military aid for the contras in fiscal 1988. He called the vote on this question "the most important vote" in Congress in 1987.

The U.S. President's speech came just 2 days before the beginning of open hearings in Congress on the affair of the White House secret weapons deliveries to Iran, and the use of the proceeds to finance Nicaraguan contra gangs. Additional evidence that the U.S. President was personally aware of and encouraged military aid to the contras in circumvention of the law has already appeared in the press and in Congress. The White House incumbent clearly tried in his speech to divert attention from the shady machinations of his administration by using a hackneyed device -- the "Soviet threat."

Reagan lambasted the congressmen who oppose increasing military aid to the contras, claiming that "delays and indecision at home can only cause unnecessary suffering in Nicaragua."

Against the background of U.S. press and television reports on the atrocities committed by the gangsters the White House describes as "freedom-fighters," the U.S. President's words sounded highly blasphemous. He said nothing about the scale of the economic sabotage carried out by the CIA-trained and CIA-directed contras. The President's words came at a time when the wave of indignation over the contras' murder of the American engineer Benjamin Linder has not yet abated in the United States.

"The President and his aides continue to seek the overthrow of the Nicaraguan Government," CBS comments on the White House head's speech. ABC, for its part, points out that "the President vowed to finish the Sandinista government in 2 years." Reagan's policy is clear: no backtracking on the question of aid to the contras and no compromise with the Sandinistas.

'IRANGATE' PARTICIPANT MILLER ADMITS GUILT

LD070536 Moscow TASS in English 2252 GMT 6 May 87

["'Irangate' Participant Admits His Guilt" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington May 6 TASS -- Richard Miller, a former U.S. State Department consultant, admitted today his guilt in a "conspiracy to defraud the government". He was charged with this accusation by special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh who is engaged in investigating the case of secret U.S. arms sales to Iran and the transfer of some proceeds to Nicaraguan contras. Miller worked as a consultant of the National Endowment for the preservation of Liberty, an ultra-conservative organization which collected funds to purchase weapons and equipment for contras. Last week Carl Channell, the founder of the National Endowment for the Preservation of Liberty, was charged with a similar accusation. He admitted his guilt and named as his accomplices Miller and Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, a former high-ranking staff member of the National Security Council.

PRAVDA NOTES 'STORM OF ANGER' AT CONTRA KILLING

PM071401 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent V. Gan Report: "United States: The Killers' Patrons"]

[Text] An American has been killed in Nicaragua. His name was Benjamin Linder. The 27-year-old engineer from Portland, Oregon, had come to this Central American country voluntarily 3 years ago to help its people rebuild the economy and organize a normal life, which had not existed under the U.S. lackeys -- the Somoza clique.

He was shot in cold blood by CIA-backed "contra" bandits in the little village of Ladcamaleona, where Linder was working on the construction of a hydroelectric power station. "They were waiting for Linder, evidently under special orders to make an example of him to the other internationalists who are helping Nicaragua," a representative of the U.S. public organization aiding civil construction in the country said.

Linder's death caused a veritable storm of anger here in America. All television channels showed the funeral of an American whose murder had been paid for by his own government. He was mourned by thousands and thousands of Nicaraguans. Anger showed through the tears. "We place the entire responsibility on President Reagan. The United States is to blame not only for Linder's death, but also for the deaths of Nicaraguans. We promise to work even harder for the benefit of the Nicaraguan revolution," the Americans working in Nicaragua who staged a demonstration outside the U.S. Embassy in Managua said.

There are many of them in the country. According to ABC TV, this year alone 40,000 U.S. citizens will go to Nicaragua, "drawn by the realization that their country is acting wrongly." Facing the threat of "contra" bullets, volunteers from Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, and Oregon are harvesting coffee, building, teaching, and carrying out medical work. Some 38 U.S. cities now have sister cities in Nicaragua (last year there were only 12). Is this not a case of the U.S. public disowning the criminal policy of Washington, which has given terrorism official status?

CURRENT ADMINISTRATION 'ACCOMPLICE IN KILLINGS'

PM071517 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 May 87 Morning Edition p 5

[A. Podolskiy article: "Informants"]

[Text] When the Tower Commission published its report on the results of the "Irangate" investigation U.S. journalists, quickly flicking through the tome, picked out from it only what interested them -- the conclusions about the complicity of key White House figures in the biggest scandal to blow up during the Reagan presidency. And either because of their haste or because of their sense of class solidarity almost all those who commented on the report omitted many facts that clearly illustrate the morals of the current U.S. Administration.

Take, for instance, the history of Washington's secret contacts with Tehran. Digging into the roots of "Irangate," the Tower Commission established that the first attempt to build bridges between the United States and Iran were made long before the summer of 1986, when Reagan's personal envoy Robert McFarlane, in the guise of an Irish national, took to Tehran a bible signed by the President, a consignment of weapons, and a promise of new and larger shipments of the same in return for the U.S. hostages.

It is clear from the report that several years earlier the White House supplied Tehran with information about a group of leading figures in the Iranian People's Party (Tudeh). "On the basis of this information," the report states, "the Khomeyni government took measures including mass executions." Thus, the PEOPLE'S DAILY WORLD -- the newspaper of U.S. working people — concludes, in this instance the United States acted as an agitator inciting a bloody reprisal, and the most ignoble role in the affair was played by the CIA, which even after the Iranian revolution did not break off its ties with agents in SAVAK, the Shah's security service.

Another example of the U.S. authorities' complicity in reprisals against those not to the White House's liking was recently cited by Frank Varelli, an FBI secret informant. Addressing Congressional hearings, he told of how, on FBI orders, he kept in contact with the ringleaders of the Salvadoran butchers — General Eugenio Vides Casanova and Colonel Mario Denis Moran. They regularly supplied Varelli with copies of lists of patriots who had been or were due to be killed, and unashamedly boasted of their role in carrying out reprisals against six Americans: four nuns and two trade union activists. (On arriving in El Salvador all six were brutally killed on suspicion of "Red" sympathies).

Varelli meticulously reported what he heard from Moran and Casanova to the FBI leadership. And what happened? "I was ordered to continue these contacts," Varelli testified. Moreover, on FBI orders he "regularly gave the National Guard (the Salvadoran regime's main punitive organ — A.P.) the names of Salvadorans expelled from the United States and of U.S. citizens who had traveled to El Salvador and whose negative attitude to Reagan's policy was well known." In so doing, Varelli admitted, "the lives of these people were placed in jeopardy."

In order to complete the picture we recall several other similar facts. At the end of 1985 a car crammed with dynamite blew up in one of Beirut's most crowded streets, resulting in the death of more than 80 entirely innocent inhabitants. It later transpired that this act of terrorism had been carried out by staffers from the local secret police trained by the CIA.

The USAF carried out the Tripoli raid 6 months later. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE, the White House was thereby trying to take reprisals against Al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution.

And what about the notorious manual of subversion and terrorist activity the CIA supplied to the Nicaraguan "contras"! This murderers' bible was personally presented to the enemies of the Sandinist revolution by Duane Claridge, who cooperate closely with one of the "heroes" of "Irangate" -- Lieutenant Colonel North -- and now heads the CIA department for combatting...terrorism.

The U.S. journal PROGRESSIVE printed the confession of Joseph Adams, a former U.S. intelligence officer who until recently served as adviser and personal bodyguard to one of the "contras" leaders -- Adolfo Calero. Adams stated in particular that back in 1985 he participated in drawing up a list of Nicaraguan patriots who would be killed if CIA mercenaries seized Managua. The first name on the list was Daniel Ortega -- leader of the Nicaraguan revolution. Adams himself was to select and train those who would carry out this bloody plan. He acquired the relevant experience in the U.S. special forces — he is a real cutthroat...

A great power should not play the part of informant and accomplice in killings. But under the present administration the United States in no way balks at this role.

ZHAO ZIYANG, BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOV MEET IN BEIJING

PM071501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talks in Beijing"]

[Text] Beijing, 6 May -- Talks took place here today between T. Zhivkov, BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] Central Committee general secretary and Bulgarian State Council chairman, who is in the PRC on an official friendly visit, and Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and PRC State Council premier.

During the talks the sides stressed that Bulgaria and the PRC have great potential to further expand their present relations of cooperation in various spheres, and primarily in the economy.

During their discussion of international issues T. Zhivkov and Zhao Ziyang stressed the importance of the struggle for disarmament and for the solution of all disputes, including regional conflicts, through peaceful negotiation. The sides stated the need to end all nuclear tests and spoke out decisively against taking the arms race into space.

Bulgarian-Chinese documents were signed in Beijing on the same day.

USSR Welcomes Warmer Ties

OW080252 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1500 GMT 7 May 87

[Mulatov commentary]

[Text] The visit to China by Comrade Zhivkov, Bulgarian party and state leader, and the Sino-Bulgarian talks in Beijing will open new possibilities for further cooperation between the two socialist countries. Station observer Mulatov comments in this connection:

The Soviet Union is really pleased with the process in recent years of relations being resumed and stronger friendly ties being developed between China and socialist countries in Eastern Europe. This will help enhance the international prestige of socialist countries and spread the salutary influence of socialist countries on world events. China's expansion and strengthening of ties and cooperation with the socialist big family show the priority and major aim of foreign policy in the communist-ruled socialist countries. We would like to point out the importance of the agreement reached between the Chinese and Bulgarian Communist Party leaders on resuming regular party-to-party contacts.

Speaking to reporters in Beijing, the spokesman of the Bulgarian delegation said: We are willing to march along the same route, the route of socialist construction. As things stand, socialist countries, despite their different characteristics, economic levels, territorial sizes, and historical and national backgrounds, share the same interest: interest in seeing a united socialist big family. The Soviet Union believes that all socialist countries will march along the road of deepening mutual understanding on the basis of equality and mutual respect of national interests.

PRC FOREIGN MINISTRY ON TIES WITH JAPAN

LD061641 Moscow TASS in English 1546 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Beijing May 6 TASS -- Certain forces in Japan have tried and are trying to revive militarism, a briefing for foreign and Chinese journalists here today was told by Ma Yuzhen, spokesman of the PRC Foreign Ministry. Considering the lessons of history, he said, it is only natural that one cannot ignore such a tendency and close one's eyes to it.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said that relations between the two countries on the whole were developing normally. At the same time, he went on, in bilateral relations there still exist issues which cannot be ignored. He recalled that the Chinese student hostel that was purchased by China in Japan after World War Two was handed over to Taiwan as its property in accordance with a ruling of a Japanese court. He said this incident was a violation of relevant Sino-Japanese agreements and norms of international law and damaged the PRC's rights and interests.

Ma Yuzhen also said that for a lengthy period of time China was running up a big deficit in its trade with Japan. The Japanese side says much about solving this problem but does little, the Foreign Ministry spokesman stated. This situation does not facilitate a further development of economic cooperation between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual advantage, he went on.

The PRC Foreign Ministry spokesman mentioned the possibility of "resolute reply measures" by the Chinese side should the Japanese side fail to revise its positions both in respect of the student hostel and in respect of bilateral trade despite repeated warnings by the PRC.

Contra Arms Sales Denied

LD061215 Moscow TASS in English 1119 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Beijing May 6 TASS -- A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman today refuted a report on the sale of arms by China to Nicaraguan Contras and described it as a "sheer invention". The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the Chinese Government consistently comes out against outside interference in the internal affairs of Central American countries, including against the granting of military assistance to Nicaraguan anti-government forces.

USSR, PRC PUBLISHERS SIGN COOPERATION ACCORD

OW300805 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0100 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] SOVETSKAYA LITERATURA and China's Renmin Wenxue Chubanshe [People's Literature Publishing House] have signed an accord in Moscow and cooperation in book publication. The accord provides for works of contemporary writers to be published in China and the Soviet Union in 1988.

Accordng to Chen Zaochun, editor in chief of Renmin Wenxue Chubanshe, the accord is a significant step in expanding cooperation between Chinese and Soviet book publishers. A 40-volume Chinese literary work will be published in the Soviet Union in the near future. In an interview with this station, Chen pointed out that preparations are being made in China to publish a multivolume set of Soviet literary works.

SPOKESMAN ON 'UNFRIENDLY' IRANIAN STATEMENTS

LD071325 Moscow TASS in English 1252 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 7 TASS -- Attempts are being made in Iran to complicate Soviet-Iranian relations in which certain positive changes are known to have lately taken place, a USSR Foreign Ministry representative said at a briefing here today.

Iranian mass media, and also some officials are making statements unfriendly towards the USSR. Attempts are being made to distort the USSR's policy towards Iran and the Iranian-Iraqi war, to falsify the history of mutual relations between our states.

Such actions do not meet the interests of development of Soviet-Iranian relations and the spirit of genuine goodneighbourliness we have always advocated stressed the USSR Foreign Ministry representative.

We should like to hope, he said, that in Iran they will heed the voice of reason, stop the unfriendly campaign and will not allow a worsening of the Soviet-Iranian relations.

COMMENTATOR DENOUCES IRANIAN ANTI-AFGHAN STAND

NC291007 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 28 Apr 87

[From "The World Today" feature]

[Text] BIA has reported that a group of armed men recently attacked the residence of the acting Afghan charge d'affaires in Tehran. Our commentator Igor Sheftunov writes:

This attack took place on the eve of the 9th anniversary of the victory of the April Revolution in Afghanistan. It should be noted that those behind such operations against democratic Afghanistan usually carry out their acts on the eve or day of the anniversary of the founding of this Republic.

This year, like years before, the city of Mashhad is again the center of activities and efforts by anti-Afghan elements. One of the largest camps of armed groups who are sent into Afghanistan is located in this Iranian city. A news conference was held in Mashhad by leaders of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. This conference has been widely propagandized on radio and television. The promoters of this propaganda charade call for intensifying the undeclared war by U.S. imperialists and reaction against democratic Afghanistan. They strongly criticize the policy of national reconciliation declared by the Afghan leadership.

Events of the past 3 months prove that this policy has been fruitful, despite futile efforts by the enemies of the Afghan people to neutralize it. More than 20,000 opponents have turned to popular rule. Discussions are being held with other opposition groups, with approximately 100,000 members, to end the armed operations. tens of thousands of refugees have returned to their homeland, answering the call to return peace and calm to Afghanistan and ensure the country's security. Afghans who have not been able [as heard] to return to their homeland from Iran have issued a call to their compatriots still in Iranian territory. This message is: "O toiling compatriots and Muslims! Do not allow the regime ruling Iran to use you against the homeland and your Muslim brothers. Continued bloodshed benefits only the enemies of Islam and the homeland. Return to your homes. Land and fields, factories and flourishing markets await you!"

Afghans living in Iran often express zealous support for the national reconciliation process, although Iranian officials try by force to prevent their repatriation. The Iranians themselves also increasingly see the need for good-neighborly relations with democratic Afghanistan. This enrages the organizers of the undeclared war against the DRA. These people do not limit themselves to propaganda charades such as the Afghan counterrevolutionaries' news conference in Mashhad; they resort to direct military provocations, like the attack by an armed group in Tehran on the residence of Afghanistan's official representative in Iran. The DRA's Foreign Ministry has strongly protested to Iranian officials about the trampling of accepted norms of international law, demanding that the criminals be punished.

REPORT ON DOWNED AFGHAN PLANE, FURTHER COMBAT

LD062032 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 6 May 87

[Report by Mikhail Leshchinskiy, identified by screen caption; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] There is new evidence of crimes committed by the opponents of a political settlement in Afghanistan. Our correspondent reports:

[Begin Leshchinskiy video] As you can see, Comrades, I am obliged to begin this reportage wearing equipment rather unusual for journalists. We have all been instructed to wear parachutes. The point is that the aircraft carrying representatives of the Soviet press and also journalists of some of the major Western news agencies, radio and television companies, has begun its descent above the Afghan town of Khost, where only recently two Afghan transport aircraft have been shot down. The journalists have been invited here in order to get reliable evidence of the falsity of the Pakistani military's fabrications with regard to these crimes. [video shows aircraft wreckage.] The tragedy was played out here in February. Thirty six peaceful Afghans died in the wreckage of this aircraft which was shot down several kilometers from the Pakistani border. The Pakistani side and the rebel bosses stated at the time that the aircraft was carrying out important military tasks. The U.S. Sidewinder missile, supplied to NATO armies, is evidence of yet another crime. [video shows damaged missile lying on the ground, writing in English can be seen on an internal compenent] The missile was fired by the F-16 fighters which shot down an Afghan aircraft in these skies in April. It had 40 people on board. Then, too, there were assertions that the aircraft had violated the border for intelligence purposes. However, the missiles that failed to detonate fell on Afghan territory and are convincing proof to the contrary. (?Dekhanin Akhmadzhan) unexpectedly witnessed the barbarous action, because the tragedy took place over his house.

Aircraft such as these have carried out provocative violations of the Afghan border 20 times this year. Literally a few days ago, here in Khost, one of them was shot down and another was hit by the antiaircraft defense forces. A good lesson to those who continue to whip up tension in the region. [end vidio]

'PROVOCATIONS' IN DRA BORDER AREAS REPORTED

LD070928 Moscow TASS in English 0820 GMT 7 May 87

[Excerpts] Khost May 7 TASS -- TASS Correspondent Herman Baykov reports: [passage omitted]

The district of Khowst situated on the border with Pakistan has long been the target for provocations and aggressive sorties of those who have unleashed and are waging the undeclared war against Democratic Afghanistan.

Nearly three months have passed since an Afghan transport aircraft with 36 passengers and a crew of five on board was shot down, but the people of Khowst remember that barbarous crime. A gang of Afghan counter-revolutionaries commanded by a certain Manon was on the alert for the unarmed plane in the frontier settlement Gudahara [name as received]. No sooner had the aircraft taken off than a "Stinger" rocket hit it. This happened two and a half kilometres from the airfield, seven kilometres from the Pakistani border.

The debris of the aircraft is still lying where it was struck by the U.S. missile fired by the bandits. [passage omitted]

Despite the Afghan Government's efforts to put an end to bloodletting and achieve peace, certain quarters both inside this country and abroad, a spokesman for the Afghan Armed Forces told the reporters, were attempting to thwart the process in every way.

He said Pakistani aircraft activities and jet projectile shellings from Pakistani territory had been stepped up lately, especially after the proclamation of a national reconciliation policy.

Gangs of Afghan counter-revoluntionaries that got entrenched in Pakistan are supplied with new armaments of U.S. and other Western makes. The spokesman for the Afghan Armed Forces said there is information that the counter-revolutionaries have a considerable number of anti-aircraft rocketry complexes, including more than 200 "Stinger" rockets. According to reports of the U.S. press it is planned to shortly treble their number.

Four transport helicopters with passengers aboard, two civilian aircraft and one military plane were shot down in the eastern part of the DRA of late. The latest plane was downed on April 16 by a "Sidewinder" rocket from an F-16 Pakistani plane. Two fighter planes of the Pakistani Air Force invaded Afghanistan's airspace in Paktia Province on April 29. One of them was shot down by the anti-aircraft defences over Khowst. Since the beginning of the current year Pakistani aircraft violated Afghanistan's airspace twenty times. [passage omitted]

The reporters were shown weapons seized from the anti-government bandits of late, including Stingers and other up-to-date anti-aircraft systems.

FURTHER CRITICISM ON PAKISTANI AWACS PLANS

PM071543 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[Vitaliy Gan "Commentator's Column": "Reckless Bargaining"]

[Text] The Pakistani Government recently requested the United States to supply it with aircraft equipped with the AWACS electronic reconnaissance system.

This report has highlighted the fact that the White House seems to have found itself "between the devil and the deep blue sea" in its policy of giving support and patronage to Pakistan. On one hand, there is widespread serious concern among U.S. political circles, and primarily in Congress, regarding Islamabad's overt attempts to acquire nuclear weapons, which would create an unpredictable situation throughout Asia. On the other hand, Pakistan serves as a lever for putting indirect pressure on India in the attempt to impart a pro-U.S. slant to its policies. And, at the same time, it is the main bridghead in the undeclared war against the people's Afghanistan that Washington is trying to prolong.

Strictly speaking, the present discordance in U.S.-Pakistani relations began in connection with the aforementined factor. It was provoked Republican Senator from New Hampshire Gordon Humphrey. After a visit to Moscow and Kabul, the legislator had a meeting in Islamabad with Pakistani President Ziaul Haq, to whom he gave photographs of a residential area in the Afghan capital where Soviet representatives in this country are settled. According to the press, the transatlantic guest expressed bewilderment that the dushmans do not shell this area, thereby allowing the Russians to "live peacefully."

Islamabad immediately seized on this idea, realizing that it would be possible to acquire the AWACS aircraft it has long had an eager eye on by speculating on the U.S. intention to do the utmost to encourage the counterrevolution in Afghanistan. Why does Pakistan need these aircraft? No one can give an intelligent answer to this question, because the standard claim of a "Soviet danger" is laughable. It is not difficult, however, to guess the real reasons. AWACS is an important component of offensive forces, making it possible to avoid a counterstrike. AWACS also has another function -- the monitoring of Soviet territory, which, in the eyes in the Pentagon and the U.S. special services, serves as an irresistible argument in favor of satisfying the solicitations of the Ziaul Haq regime.

In other words, the Pakistani rulers would like to derive the maximum benefit from Washington's anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan paranoia. That is why, according to THE WASHINGTON POST, a secret message from Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo was given to President Reagan by Senator Humphrey, saying that if Pakistan were to be supplied with AWACS aircraft it would "quickly train" the dushmans to carry out missile attacks on the areas in Kabul where Soviet citizens are living.

It is hard to say how all this bargaining will end. But the fact that it heavily involves people's lives and attempts to wreck the establishment of peace in Afghanistan speaks for itself.

INDIA'S GANDHI SPEAKS OUT ON EXTERNAL 'PRESSURE'

PM071507 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent dispatch: "India: Prime Minister Speaks"]

[Text] 3 May -- "Work for all." That will be the government's main concern in the next few years, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi told a mass rally in the southern Indian city of Salem.

The rally was devoted to May Day and the 40th anniversary of the Indian National Congress of Trade Unions. The Indian National Congress, R. Gandhi said, has always sided with the working people and the oppressed in cities and villages.

Speaking about the Indian economy's achievements in the last 2 years, the prime minister noted that India has achieved complete self-sufficiency in a number of areas and will never become a hostage of the multinationals. Here Rajiv Gandhi pointed out the great significance his government attaches to the state sector of the economy. In the last 2 years alone capital investments in the state sector have amounted to 500 billion rupees, that is to say, 50 percent more than in the previous 3 decades or so. And this is bearing fruit.

It is precisely as a result of India's having achieved considerable success on the economic and other fronts, Rajiv Gandhi went on to say, that hostile forces inside and outside the country are exerting pressure on India with the aim of pushing the country backward and retarding its progress.

The efforts to destabilize the situation in the country, he noted, have taken the form of attempts to sow unjustified doubts about the integrity of the government. Attempts are being made to overthrow the people's elected representatives, undermine the country's defense, and deprive the armed forces of modern armaments. To this end the armed forces are being denigrated, religious tension fueled, and communalism and fanaticism fomented. The actions of certain circles threaten parliamentary democracy in the country and the Constitution. We, the prime minister stated, will not tolerate that in India. We will never permit our Constitution to be undermined or our democracy destroyed.

INDIA POSTPONES FOREIGN MINISTER'S U.S. VISIT

LD080532 Moscow TASS in English 0424 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] New Delhi May 8 TASS -- It has been officially announced in India's capital that the U.S. visit of India's Minister for External Affairs Narayan Dutt Tiwari, planned for next week, has been postponed.

"The decision is regarded in well-informed circles as the expression of the Indian Government's reaction to complete disregard for the interests of India's security on the part of the United States which continues carrying out the course of delivery of newest armaments to Pakistan," the newspaper TIMES OF INDIA writes today.

India repeatedly noted that the course of the United States would lead to a qualitative disruption of the military balance in the region. The newspaper stresses that it is for the first time that India has resorted to such a step as postponement of the visit of its minister for external affairs to the United States, and this testifies to the extent of India's concern over Washington's stand.

USSR-SRV AMITY CONFERENCE HELD IN MOSCOW 28 APR

OW011111 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 29 April 87

[Excerpts] The Sixth All-Union Conference of the Soviet-Vietnam Friendship Society [SVFS] was held in Moscow on 28 April. Following is our station correspondent's report:

On that day, the House of Friendship with Foreign Countries in Moscow was crowded with representatives of various SVFS grassroots' organizations from all parts of the country. [passage omitted]

The presidium members of the conference included members of the SVFS Central Committee, the leading cadres of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; high-ranking party, youth, and trade union cadres; members of the Vietnam-Soviet Friendship Association [VSFA] delegation, headed by Nguyen Vinh, chairman of the VSFA, and SRV Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union Nguyen Manh Cam.

The conferees were read a gretings letter from Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee, to the delegates. In the letter, he expressed gratitude to the SVFS cadres for their great contributions to consolidating Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship, and wished them new achievements in their noble work.

Comrade Titov, chairman of the SVFS Central Committee, Soviet Hero, Labor Hero of Vietnam, and Soviet cosmonaut, read a detailed report on the SVFS's activities over the past 5 years. Following is an excerpt from this report. Comrade Titov said:

[Begin Titov recording in Russian, fading into Vietnamese translation] The Sixth All-Union Conference of the SVFS is being held at a moment when there are many important changes in the life of the Soviet Union, and when profound reforms are being implemented in accordance with the resolutions of the April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the 27th CPSU Congress.

The Soviet people are following with great interest the work of the Sixth CPV Congress, which has approved resolutions imbued with a spirit of new thinking. The congress of the Vietnamese Communists has set out a progressive, creative, and realistic way of renovation to effect settlement of issues now facing the country, in harmony with the spirit of renovation of the 27th CPSU Congress. The new historical period of development in our fraternal countries has imposed great and heavy tasks on the SVFS cadres. We must effectively boost the process of development of Soviet-Vietnamese relations in all spheres, and pay special attention to consolidating direct relations between the chapters of the SVFS and VSFA in various localities. The main content of these relations is the direct contacts between working collectives of the same sector. [end recording]

Renovation was constantly mentioned at the forum of the Sixth All-Union Conference of the SVFS. Delegates stressed the need to resolutely set new models in work, overcome formalism, and patiently find out new forms of activity for grassroots organizations, in conformity with the spirit of the era.

The speech by Comrade Anatoliy Bogachev, professor of the Moscow Mining Institute, which is a recipient of Vietnam's Friendship Order, contained interesting ideas. He said:

[Begin Bogachev recording in Russian, fading into Vietnamese translation] Over the past several years, we have trained cadres for fraternal Vietnam. Many graduates are currently holding important positions in several economic sectors in Vietnam.

We have always sought ways to make our training work more effective. For instance, we have striven to help the furure Vietnamese engineers serve their apprenticeship with equipment they will operate in Vietnam. [end recording]

In his speech, Nguyen Vinh, chairman of the VSFA, made a detailed report on the VSFA's activities in implementing the resolutions of the Sixth CPV Congress.

He placed special emphasis on preparations for celebration of the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution in Vietnam, and on the need to further increase contacts between the VSFA and the SVFS.

Comrade Nguyen Vinh closed his speech with the following remarks:

[Begin Nguyen Vinh recording] Comrades: The VSFA is proud of its close friend, the SVFS, a broad mass organization endowed with high prestige and great capability, led by the CPSU, and enjoying the active participation of Soviet people from all walks of life. We listened to Comrade Titov's speech with great interest. We highly value the SVFS's activities in the past year. We sincerely thank all of you for the SVFS's feverish and multiform activities, which have helped further mutual understanding between the peoples of our two countries.

On behalf of the VSFA and all its chapters nationwide, I extend to you our sincere thanks for the wholehearted spiritual and material support, multifaceted assistance, and fine sentiments of the SVFS and the Soviet people. It is a fine tradition of the Vietnamese people to express their deep gratitude to the great Soviet Union, the homeland of the October Revolution and Vladimir Lenin, and to do all they can to be worthy of this great support and assistance, while contributing to developing the unshakable friendship between the peoples of our two countries. We are convinced that the Sixth SVFS Conference will achieve brilliant success in setting out important new guidelines for the SVFS's work.

We wish you even greater achievements in your noble undertaking a consolidating and strengthening the great friendship, militant solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the two parties and peoples of Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

We sincerely thank the SVFS Central Committee and all of you for creating favorable conditions for our delegation to attend this conference. [end recording]

The conference adopted a letter of greetings to be addressed to Comrade Nguyen Van Linh. The letter stresses that the SVFS members, as well as the entire people of the Soviet Union, sincerely treasure their fraternal friendship with the Vietnamese people and will continue to consolidate and develop this traditional friendship, which Lenin and President Ho Chi Minh endeavored to cultivate.

The conference approved a resolution expanding and deepening friendly relations between all Soviet republics, oblasts, and cities and all Vietnamese provinces and cities, as well as the cooperation between Soviet and Vietnamese enterprises, organs, schools, youth organizations, and art societies.

The conference elected a new SVFS Central Committee and reelected Soviet Cosmonaut Titov as its chairman.

Cooperation Plan Signed

OW011251 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 29 Apr 87

[Text] A 5-year cooperation plan was signed in Moscow on 29 April between the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the SVFS on the Soviet side, and the Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with Other Peoples and the VSFA on the Vietnamese side, in the presence of Nguyen Manh Cam, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union.

Prior to the signing of the cooperation plan, our station correspondent asked Comrade Titov to speak about the document. Comrade Titov, Soviet cosmonaut, Soviet Hero, Labor Hero of Vietnam, was reelected chairman of the SVFS Central Committee at the Sixth All-Union Conference of the SVFS held on 28 April in Moscow. He said:

[Begin Titov recording in Russian, fading into Vietnamese translation] This is the third 5-year cooperation plan between our two countries social organizations. We have satisfactorily fulfilled the previous two plans. Implementation of this new plan will be accelerated to full speed because the form and assistance has proved to be suitable to us.

We are convinced that the new plan will help motivate workers in our two countries to actively fulfill the resolutions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 6th CPV Congress thereby contributing to the noble work of developing and consolidating the fraternal relations between the peoples of our two countries. [end recording]

The cooperation plan specifies the main tasks of this work, namely, seeking to understand the experiences in socioeconomic development in the Soviet Union and Vietnam, motivating public opinion to support the tireless efforts of our parties and states aimed at preventing a nuclear disaster.

The plan attaches importance to developing direct relations between sister provinces and cities, as well as industrial enterprises of the two countries and to the issue of studies for Vietnamese youth in the Soviet Union. Major drives will be organized on the occasion of the celebration of the festive days in the life of our two countries.

The 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution will be broadly and ceremoniously celebrated this year. Vietnam's festive days will be celebrated in every oblast of the Soviet Republics of Latvia, Georgia, Estonia, and Armenia. Opinions, remarks, and suggestions of participants in the Sixth All-union Conference of the SVFS are inserted into this cooperation plan.

Delegates from 43 chapters and hundreds of grassroots organizations of the SVFS attended the signing ceremony. Comrade Titov and Comrade Nguyen Vinh, chairman of the VSFA Central Committee, signed the plan. Comrade Nguyen Vinh addressed delegates as follows:

[Begin Nguyen recording] We are glad that the friendship organizations of the peoples of our two countries, and especially the activities of the SVFS and the VSFA, have actively contributed to the common cause of strengthening cooperation, friendship, and mutual assistance between the two peoples, for the sake of socialism and peace.

We are very enthused to attend the SVFS conference, because of your eagerness for strengthening the ties of friendship and solidarity between our two peoples. The VSFA will do its utmost to strengthen the friendship and solidarity between the two peoples in order to be worthy of their noble sentiments for us. [end recording]

UK'S HOWE PUTS AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND 'TO SHAME'

PM041915 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 30 Apr 87 p 3

[Vladimir Lapin "Commentator's Opinion": "Spurious Arguments"]

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe's visit to Australia and New Zealand has once again highlighted the exacerbation of contradictions between Britain and those two major Pacific countries -- its former possessions which once submissively fulfilled London's every will.

The essence of the main disagreements lies in the different approaches to the concept of "ensuring the defense and security" of the region. As is known, the so-called Rarotonga Treaty, which proclaims the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone, was drawn up on Australia's initiative. It was signed by the 13 countries of the South Pacific forum. That clear antinuclear stance provoked a storm of indignation in Washington above all, which refused to sign the protocols to the treaty. Britain, like an obedient vassal, followed its example -- which caused great regret in Canberra and Wellington.

But now, in an attempt to lend supposedly well-reasoned weight to London's position, the British foreign secretary has resorted to the "classic" method: In both capitals he set about intimidating his negotiating partners with the phantom of the "Soviet military threat." And he also put Canberra and Wellington to shame for forgetting their duty to strengthen the overall security of the "Western world." In NATO's opinion, this applies primarily to New Zealand, which is taking the "dangerous and unnecessary step" of keeping out of the country the "allies'" warships and aircraft with nuclear weapons on board. Indeed, the United States has already announced the abolition of its status as an allied country, while London is talking of adopting a number of "trade sanctions."

However, the farfetched arguments of the foreign secretary, who diplomatically "forgot" that the USSR was the first to sign the protocols to the Rarotonga Treaty, did not convince anyone. What is more, Australian Foreign Minister William Hayden rejected the arguments advanced by the head of the Foreign Office that Britain is prevented from signing the protocols by its "nuclear commitments" in Europe and voiced disappointment that Britain is following the United States in refusing to realize what an adverse response is elicited by their refusal to support the will of the region's island states to ensure their genuine security.

ALBANIAN ASSEMBLY DELEGATION CONCLUDES SRV VISIT

PM061239 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Apr Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Guests of Vietnam"]

[Text] Hanoi, 29 Apr -- The visit of an Albanian parliamentary delegation led by Petro Dode, chairman of the Albanian People's Assembly Board, to Vietnam has ended.

During the visit talks took place between the Albanian delegation and a delegation of the SRV National Assembly led by Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the SRV National Assembly, VNA reports. The sides informed each other of the two countries' internal situations and exchanged views on international problems of mutual interest.

The delegation was received by Truong Chinh, chairman of the SRV Council of State.

MSZMP'S KADAR VOICES SUPPORT FOR RESTRUCTURING

PM071331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Speech by Janos Kadar"]

[Text] Budapest, 1 May -- The Hungarian people welcome the process of restructuring taking place in the Soviet Union, a process which influences the cooperation between socialist community countries, including the development of Soviet-Hungarian collaboration, MSZMP General Secretary Janos Kadar declared. Speaking yesterday at a meeting with workers from Angyalfold, a major industrial district of the Hungarian capital, he said that the prospects of Soviet-Hungarian cooperation inspire a feeling of optimism.

The influence of the processes being implemented in the USSR, the Hungarian leader stressed, is also felt in the solution of major international questions. The new proposals put forward by the Soviet Union in the sphere of arms reduction and disarmament, which are based on the principles of equal security, offer an opportunity to reach important agreements. Hungary will continue to actively advocate the strengthening of security and peace all over the world.

ZHIVKOV VIEWS TRANSFER OF ASSETS TO COLLECTIVES

PM071259 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 May 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Society's Interests"]

[Text] Sofia, 1 May -- Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian People's Republic State Council, has substantiated the need for a declaration on the granting of socialist property to labor collectives to use and manage. The Bulgarian press today carries the text of his speech at the session of the Bulgarian People's Republic National Assembly held in Sofia.

When we speak of granting socialist property to its proper stewards, it does not mean we are transforming it from nationwide property into group property, the speaker said. Socialist property is single and indivisible. A labor collective operating under the new conditions can and must safeguard and augment it in the interests of society and the working people, in the interests of each individual citizen of the country. This question assumes great importance also from the viewpoint of the development of socialist democracy, the leader of the Buglarian People's Republic noted.

DETAILS OF ZHIVKOV CABLE TO SOVIET LEADERS

PM071555 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 May 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "From the Aircraft"]

[Text] From an aircraft T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, has sent a telegram to M.S. Gorbachev and A.A. Gromyko stating: "As I fly over the territory of the great Soviet Union, I send you and, through you, the fraternal Soviet people the most cordial congratulations and wishes for great new successes in fulfilling the historic decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum. [paragraph continues]

The flight over your vast country affords me a pleasant opportunity to reemphasize our satisfaction at the development of our fraternal mutual relations and our conviction that Bulgarian-Soviet friendship and cooperation will continue to strengthen and deepen for the good of the Bulgarian and Soviet peoples and for the sake of the cause of peace and socialism. I wholeheartedly wish you and all Soviet people good health, happiness, and prosperity."

VEDERNIKOV ATTENDS GDR ENVOY'S RECEPTION

PM071503 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Anniversary Marked"]

[Text] G. Koenig, GDR ambassador to the USSR, held a reception on 6 May to mark the 42d anniversary of the German people's liberation from fascism.

The reception was attended by G.M. Voskanyan, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; G.G. Vedernikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; leaders of a number of USSR ministries and departments; military leaders; and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REVIEWS POLISH TOUR

PM061021 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 May 87 First Edition p 3

[Report by Captain Second Rank V. Kocherov: "Polish Meetings; From Travel Notebook"]

[Text] If you want to get to know Krakow, visit Stare Miasto.... On our way to visit servicemen, we reached the old city only at 1700. On that warm spring evening life was proceeding as usual on the market square. Flocks of pigeons flew between the rows of bright flowers. Tireless little children darted about. Teenagers, who now somehow look alike the world over, were in small groups, engaged in deep discussion of their problems.

"If you have nothing against it, let's listen to them," Major Czeslaw Rychlewski, our companion and colleague, suggested. We stopped. Almost immediately, high above the city, a trumpet rang out telling the people of Krakow that another hour had struck. The sound of the trumpet stopped suddenly at its highest note in memory of the Krakow trumpeter whose tune, according to legend, was broken off nearly 800 years ago by an arrow from one of Batu Khan's archers.

Raising their heads, the tourists slowed their pace. An elderly man not far off looked at his watch out of habit to check the time. A very young girl near the entrance to the church, apparently still a schoolgirl, slowly made a sign of the cross. When we looked inside as we were touring the square I saw the young girl again. She was kneeling in front of the altar....

On the way to Krakow and then to Auschwitz, wooden or plaster figures of the saints next to the houses along the highway accompanied us as an unfailing element of the roadside landscape. We noticed that it is entirely commonplace to the Poles that church newspapers and magazines can be bought at the newspaper kiosk and that you can hear a mass by turning on the radio.

The church's influence on Poles, Colonel S. Chwilkowski, chief of the Polish Armed Forces Main Political Administration press and information department, told us, cannot be overlooked. In addition, it is not innocuous, as some people would like to believe. [paragraph continues]

A certain proportion of the priests are conducting antigovernment, antisocialist propaganda and ostentatiously support leaders of the former "Solidarity."

This fully accords with the policy of certain circles in the West where they do not conceal the fact that they would like to invest the Polish Catholic Church with the functions of what amounts almost to a state apparatus, as THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR recently announced, demanding that the church be granted "the freedom to act, think, and lead the Polish people." These can scarcely be regarded as anything other than attempts to divide the Polish people. Particularly if you consider today's complexities.

It is well known that not so long ago Poland experienced a complex period in its history which obviously cannot be considered to have ended. Attempts to undermine its unity from outside and within continue. This is also confirmed by the desire of Radio Free Europe to publicize the pseudopacifist group Wolnosc i Pokoj (Freedom and Peace) which sees a threat to the cause of peace not in the arms race unleashed by NATO headed by the United States but in the Polish Armed Forces and their relations in the Warsaw Pact. This is also confirmed by very recent events in the country involving the preventive detection of small groups and individuals who think of themselves as the underground. Entering Krakow we took notice of the letter "S" handprinted on a building. Our Polish colleagues explained that "Solidarity" used this letter to designate its organization during its period of rampage. When "Solidarity" made itself felt as a political force, they told us, some people in the country hoped for rapid positive changes. What actually happened? While people were holding meetings at its call, the enterprises were not working. A substantial blow was struck to the economy. It was perhaps through this that "Solidarity" most compromised itself and today has definitively lost support among the people. An increasing number of people are beginning to be persuaded to be loyal to the party line aimed at the country's socialist renewal. The fact that for the first time in recent years there has been an increase in the party ranks is evidence of the Polish working people's support for the PZPR. We well understand, our Polish friends said, that our strength lies only in the unity of the people and party and that the country's better future is in our own hands.

It is hard for Poland today. The state budget deficit remains. The country's foreign debt is nearly $34 billion. We were the involuntary witnesses of heated discussions over the proposed increase in prices for basic foodstuffs. The official announcement of the increase in prices for meat and meat products, milk and dairy products, bread, sugar, and vegetable oil has already reached Moscow....

Nonetheless, despite the assurances of some Western mass media, the situation in the country is not as some people would like to present it. Despite the difficulties, the Poles themselves look into their future with optimism and confidence. "We are not the victims of a shipwreck," W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council, noted. "We are not drowning and one special reason for this is that we have a very solid base, a solid bulwark in cooperation with the socialist countries, especially with the USSR economy, which, as is well known, is acquiring a new dynamic force...".

It is possible to cite many examples of the increasingly close cooperation between our countries in the economy and indeed in ideology, science, and culture. When we were driving past Katowice, the driver, turning on the radio, caught a local radio station broadcast. It was announcing the completion of start-up work at the second coke-oven battery at the flagship of the people's Poland"s ferrous metallurgy industry — the "Katowice" combine installed with the USSR's technical assistance. As of this year Poland will export over 1 million tonnes of coke a year to the Soviet Union. [paragraph continues]

While we were getting to know Poland, the newspapers were also writing about the international computer exhibition opening in Wroclaw in which many socialist countries, including ours, were taking part, and of the first achievements of our enterprises which have established direct ties.

Direct ties in the economy are a relatively new phenomenon. There is no way you can say this about our armed forces. The most direct and friendly ties possible have existed for decades between the Soviet Armed Forces and the Polish Armed Forces. The brotherhood born in the years of fighting against fascism is now acquiring a new quality. It was pleasant to note that the army in Poland enjoys great prestige among the people, above all as a school for educating young men in a spirit of internationalism and collectivism.

"Today our strength is in our cohensiveness," Major Mieczyslaw Benek, a battalion commander and delegate to the 10th PZPR Congress. "Ultimately, the better each of us works at his specific workplace, the more rapidly we will overcome the consequences of the very hard crisis. Here too the example should come primarily from party members. An example in large and small matters. We cannot have any so-called '8-hour party members' who forget they belong to the party as soon as the working day ends...".

Maj Benek speaks Russian well, explaining his knowledge of the language by his friendship with a Soviet officer during their joint study at military academy. Mieczyslaw does not avoid controversial topics. Remembering the young people I had seen in the church, I asked about work with believers. There is literally only a handful of such people in the battalion, Benek said. We deal individually with each of them. Indeed service itself in time proves to each of them that everything in life depends on them themselves, on those who are next to them in the sky and on the ground. Belief in comradeship, Maj Benek stressed, in mutual aid and in the strong alliance of our peoples and armies is the most reliable belief.

The subjects discussed included the theme of discipline.

"I cannot call the state of discipline and work to strengthen it in the battalion a problem," Benek said. "There are, of course, individual violations as we put it, it can't be denied, but the problem as such does not exist. First, this is due to the comprehensive approach toward the consolidation of discipline, which is based on ideological and political education. I think we should also remember the following point. Service in the Soviet Army and in our army makes special demands on the soldiers and their discipline. We talk and we educate the servicemen in such a spirit that they must all sense their responsibility for the common cause. I see in this a condition for our collective's firm cohesion."

Effective measures to strengthen military discipline have been implemented recently in the Polish Army, we were told. The role of the junior command staff in training and educating their subordinates has been considerably enhanced. The selection of candidates for junior command posts to be sent to training subunits, for instance, is carried out after they have serviced 6 months. On completing training they return to their units. The consolidation of discipline has also been positively affected by the fact that the best sergeants and soldiers released into the reserve are given recommendations for their promotion to various posts in party and state organs at their place of residence. The Polish Armed Forces also carry out many original educational measures with the participation of young civilians.

That order and discipline in Maj Benek's battalion are of the proper standard could be seen with the naked eye, so to speak: the servicemen moved across the territory only in formation, there was a special precision in their reports and the utmost business during exercises. An excellent-rated battalion has its own special pride and special traditions. [paragraph continues]

The unit to which the battalion belongs was formed in 1943 near Zhitomir. In the museum we were shown photographs of the commanders and the very first commander -- the Soviet officer G. Sheypak. Under his command the unit liberated Warsaw, took Kolobrzeg, and reached the Elbe. Today the unit of servicemen is fulfilling important tasks within the contingent of UN troops in the Near East, helping to strengthen peace and stability in this blazing region.

We were approaching the battalion headquarters when a military trumpet signal rang out high above the houses. This signal was interpreted here as a call for vigilance, for socialist Poland's staunchness in its desire for a bright future.

PZPR CC POLITBURO LAUDS ACCORDS WITH USSR

PM061249 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: PZPR Central Committee Politburo Session"]

[Text] Warsaw, 30 Apr -- The declaration on Soviet-Polish cooperation in the sphere of ideology, science, and culture, signed in Moscow by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev and PZPR Central Committee First Secretary W. Jaruzelski is an event of historic significance in relations between the two parties and states. This is stressed in a report on a PZPR Central Committee Politburo session that has been released here.

The declaration and the accompanying detailed program determine the content and prospects of Soviet-Polish relations in all areas of political and spiritual life. The implementation of the provisions of these documents will help consolidate ideological unity, will enrich the content and forms of collaboration, and will contribute to deepening friendship between the two countries' peoples.

It was stressed at the session that the accords reached during the visit in the sphere of economic and scientific-technical cooperation, taking into special consideration direct production links between industrial enterprises, will exercise a big influence on the future development of mutually advantageous bilateral economic relations. The PZPR Central Committee Politburo instructed the party authorities and organizations to take all the necessary steps to ensure implementation of the signed documents and the accords that were reached.

The talks that took place during the visit and the accords that were reached represent the consistent implementation of the 10th PZPR Congress' strategic line toward comprehensive development of cooperation and strengthening of friendship with the USSR. The talks between M.S. Gorbachev and W. Jaruzelski are of special importance for the implementation of these tasks.

The exchange of information on the fulfillment of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and 10th PZPR Congress and the analysis of questions of Soviet-Polish cooperation and key problems of the international situation demonstrated once again complete unity of views and assessments.

The PZPR Central Committee Politburo noted with satisfaction that Soviet-Polish cooperation is currently distinguished by a high degree of dynamism. This fully meets the demands of the new stage in the development of mutual relations in all areas. The Soviet Union's strategy of restructuring and acceleration imparts new momentum to Poland's course of socialist renewal and creates a favorable climate for the extensive development of fraternal relations between the two parties and countries.

PRAVDA NOTES STATEMENT BY CEAUSESCU, JCP LEADER

PM071345 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Responsibility for Peace"]

[Text] Bucharest, 1 May -- A statement by RCP Secretary General N. Ceausescu and K. Miyamoto, chairman of the Japan Communist Party [JCP] Central Committee, has been published here on the results of bilateral consultations that have taken place. The parties' leaders outlined the positions and assessments of the RCP and the JCP on cardinal problems of contemporary international life.

It was asserted that mankind is experiencing a crucial period in its history since the struggle for the elimination of nuclear weapons and the prevention of a world war, for national independence and sovereignty, and for democracy and social progress has acquired broad scope. Under these conditions, historic progress by mankind can be ensured for the sake of future generations. The peoples' resources and wealth must not be wasted for unproductive purposes like the arms race. They must be used to eliminate the famine and poverty affecting hundreds of millions of people. What is needed in the interests of such a breakthrough is the pooling of the efforts of working people in socialist states and capitalist countries and the forces of the national liberation movement.

N. Ceausescu and K. Miyamoto declared there is a pressing and imperative need to create a united international front of struggle against nuclear weapons. It is necessary to step up the struggle on all continents to prevent a nuclear war, for disarmament, against the militarizaton of outer space, beginning with a rejection of the "strategic defense initiative" program, and for a complete ban on nuclear weapon tests and the creation of nuclear-free zones.

It is necessary to finally abandon the mistaken concept that nuclear weapons supposedly strengthen states' defense capability and security and help to preserve peace. At the same time, it must be borne in mind that the forces supporting nuclear armament have gone onto a counteroffensive since the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik.

Both parites believe, the statement emphasizes, in the interests of solving the topical problems of our time, it is necessary and possible to eliminate the barriers to genuine restoration of the communist movement's unity.

FOREIGN MINISTRY APPEALS FOR WOMAN'S RELEASE

LD071924 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1854 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Paris, 7 May (TASS) -- The Soviet Embassy in France has today distributed the following press statement:

In connection with the fact that, despite repeated appeals from the Soviet side, the unfounded accusations levelled at Soviet citizen L.P. Varigina (Verdier) have not yet been lifted and that she is still denied the opportunity to leave for the USSR to complete her studies and take her final institute examinations, the Soviet Embassy has sent the French Foreign Ministry photocopies of letters received at various times by L.P. Varigina (Verdier) and the USSR Foreign Ministry. There are serious grounds for supposing that the sender of all these letters is A. Manole, who is not unknown.

The contents of the indicated letters proves clearly that the criminal proceedings instituted by the French authorities against L.P. Varigina (Verdier) are a result of her being slandered by A. Manole, who was attempting in this way to slander the Soviet citizen and to prevent, for personal motives, her marriage to P. Verdier.

Sending the copies of the mentioned letters, the Soviet Embassy expressed the hope that they would help to cast light on the affair and would aid the most rapid and complete lifting of all the unfounded accusations against L.P. Varigina (Verdier) and the restrictions on her freedom.

FRENCH LEADERS DIFFER ON MIDEAST CONFERENCE IDEA

PM071451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent V. Bolshakov report: "France: About a Visit"]

[Text] Israel's Prime Minister Y. Shamir has ended his official visit to France.

In the course of meetings with President F. Mitterrand, Prime Minister J. Chirac, and other officials, the Israeli prime minister did his utmost to get France to abandon its support for the idea of convening an international conference on the Near East under UN auspices with the participation of all interested sides, including the PLO and the five Security Council permanent members.

F. Mitterrand spoke out firmly in support of such a conference, stressing that France "does not support direct contacts" between Israel and its Arab neighbors after the Camp David pattern, "believing them to be illusory."

At the same time Prime Minister J. Chirac, supporting the idea of convening an international conference on the Near East, intimated in a television speech that his government will not insist on this if the convening of such a conference leads to "confrontation with Israel." Moreover, J. Chirac did not even once mention the need for the PLO's participation in such a conference.

This gave Y. Shamir grounds to speak of "good mutual understanding" between France and Israel. Y. Shamir spoke out categorically against any contacts and talks between Israel and the PLO and against the convening of an international conference on a Near East settlement.

PRAVDA DECRIES KOHL REMARKS AT W. BERLIN CEREMONY

PM071505 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent V. Kabanov report: "West Berlin: Contrary to the Demands of the Time"]

[Text] A rally to mark Berlin's 750th anniversary was held in West Berlin's International Congress Center.

There were flowers and brass bands. But here is something amazing: Seats in the front row were [here PRAVDA 2 May First Edition adds "impressively"] occupied by FRG Federal Chancellor H. Kohl, ministers in his government, and other West German figures [here PRAVDA 2 May First Edition adds "whose prerogatives do not in the least concern West Berlin"]. It became clear right after the first words of welcome from West Berlin Governing Mayor Diepgen that a political show following a prepared script was being staged on the banks of the Spree River. Diepgen skillfully juggled with phrases about a "united Berlin" and the "unity of the German nation," about "the land of Berlin belonging to the FRG," and so on. The FRG chancellor spoke in the same vein. His speech was full of nationalistic stock phrases about the allegedly "open German question," crude attacks on the GDR, and demands that the "national problem" be solved.

The following question automatically arises: What about the relevant international treaties signed by the FRG and the socialist countries? What about the four-power agreement signed by the USSR, the United States, Britain, and France 3 September 1971, whose key provision is that West Berlin is not under the jurisdiction of and does not belong to the FRG? After all, it was these treaties and the four-power agreement that largely contributed to improving the political situation in the heart of Europe and became an important element in international detente. Those assembled did not hear any of the speeches mention that it was from Berlin that two world wars costing tens of millions of lives were launched, during this century, nor anything about West Berlin's great responsibility in today's struggle for peace.

[Here PRAVDA 2 May First Edition adds the following final paragraph: "Regrettably, there is no end to attempts in the FRG to look upon West Berlin as 'their' land, despite its special political status."]

IZVESTIYA VIEWS CHIRAC-KOHL TALKS ON ARMS CURBS

PM071535 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Correspondent Yu. Kovalenko dispatch: "France-FRG: Meeting in Strasbourg"]

[Text] Paris -- French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl have met in the French city of Strasbourg, where they examined Soviet proposals on eliminating medium-range and operational and tactical missiles in Europe.

According to press reports, Chirac and Kohl stated the need to study carefully the Soviet initiatives and hold joint consultations before a common position is formulated by the West European countries. It is proposed that these will take place at the end of May.

The French prime minister said that his government has "great reservations" about the series of "zero options" (that is, the elimnination of medium-range and operational and tactical missiles -- Yu.K.), which, in his words, involve a risk of Europe being left without nuclear weapons. Observers point out that Paris and Bonn continue to think that peace in Europe will be secured by means of nuclear deterrence so long as the Soviet Union possesses alleged superiority in the conventional armed forces and armaments area. Moreover, in their opinion, the presence of U.S. nuclear weapons will help U.S. European unity.

There are, however, differences in the French and FRG attitudes to the Soviet proposals. Jacques Chirac reiterated that the consistent reduction of nuclear arsenals involves a threat to peace and declining security on the continent of Europe. For his part, the chancellor of the FRG, a country where 92 percent of the population favors the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, expressed the conviction that the West Europeans will manage to find a general solution guaranteeing greater security with fewer weapons.

Commenting on the results of the Strasbourg meeting, L'HUMANITE writes: "While the old continent has been turned over the years into a real powder keg capable of destroying the whole of European civilization, French officialdom regards the elimination of U.S. and Soviet missiles as a 'threat' and even as a 'nuclear Munich.' In these conditions," L'HUMANITE continues, the question arises: Why is the French prime minister going to Moscow?

ANNIVERSARY OF FRG'S ENTRY INTO NATO NOTED

LD080852 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0420 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 8 May (TASS) -- Political observer Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

It is the 32d anniversary of the FRG's entry into NATO. One can make the bold assumption that there will be no popular festivities to mark the occasion in the towns of West Germany.

"NATO is a delayed action bomb." This is the opinion of Alfred Mechtersheimer, a public figure who has gone from military airman to an active participant in the peace movement, and who is well known even outside the borders of West Germany.

Indeed, one fifth of the personnel of the NATO armed forces are constantly stationed in the FRG. West German territory is uprecedentedly packed with virtually all types of weapons of mass destruction. Over 5,000 nuclear warheads, and 4 million liters of U.S. poisonous substances are concentrated there. The FRG firmly occupies second place in NATO for total military spending.

In speaking of the routine anniversary of the FRG's entry into NATO, one could recall history. But it is better to turn to present day events. The only way to get out of the terrible spiral of the arms race and to ensure the very survival of mankind is along the path of new thinking, and this demands the recognition of realities, the balance of interests, and the renunciation of obsolete doctrines.

Is the FRG aware of the complicated nature of the situation, and is it concerned about the nuclear threat? Yes. But it seems that although nuclear weapons are bad, "nuclear weapons must be left alone." One does not have to go far to find an example of this approach. [paragraph continues]

In his 7 May governmental statement on disarmament problems, the head of the Bonn cabinet stated that he shares Moscow's viewpoint on "the necessity for new thinking and new actions." Everything would seem to be fine, let us sit down together at a table immediately!...

But then Helmut Kohl began to talk about "the strategy of deterrence," about the importance of nuclear weapons which, he says, "NATO cannot totally relinquish." There was also mention of "the considerable Soviet military superiority," of "the Warsaw Pact's capability for invading West Europe." In general, the old, usual NATO wind was blowing.

FRG STUDY NOTES E. BLOC TECHNOLOGICAL SUCCESSES

PM071309 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 May 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Conjectures and Reality"]

[Text] Bonn, 1 May -- The conjectures about the Soviet Union's "technological lag" behind the other industrially developed countries circulated in the West do not correspond with reality. Indeed, the USSR is considerably ahead of Western states in some directions of technological development and scientific thinking. This conclusion is contained in a scientific study conducted by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, which has close links with the Social Democratic Party of Germany.

The USSR, the study notes, is ahead of the West in the exploration of outer space. Soviet achievements in the areas of thermonuclear fusion, laser technology, molecular genetics, and the study of nuclear particle radiation are up to the highest world standards. It is indicative, the work's authors emphasize, that in 1976-80 the Soviet Union sold 720 industrial licenses to Western states, which is three times the number it purchased. It is also a noteworthy fact that the United States required 125 licenses from the Soviet Union.

In the foundation's opinion, the West's embargo on deliveries of a number of commodities to socialist states had a "mobilizing effect" on CEMA and boomeranged against the West. All CEMA countries made effective efforts to prevent a technological lag, and these efforts were crowned with success. At present, for example, there are 260 high-performance computers and 30,000 personal computers operating at Hungary's enterprises and institutions. Bulgaria produces computers and laser equipment for the needs of the metal and timber processing industries.

NEW FRG ENVOY MEYER-LANDRUT ARRIVES IN MOSCOW 4 MAY

LD042137 Hamburg DPA in German 1717 GMT 4 May 87

[Text] Moscow, (DPA) -- The Federal Republic's new ambassador to the Soviet Union, Andreas Meyer-Landrut, arrived in Moscow today. Meyer-Landrut was received by representatives of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, by part of the diplomatic corps in Moscow, and by members of the Bonn Embassy. In answer to journalists' questions as to when Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker will come to the Soviet Union Meyer-Landrut said: "Soon, I hope." Meyer-Landrut is relieving the ambassador to date, Joerg Kastl, who retired in March. As is customary, he will officially take up his office with the presentation of his credentials.

Fifty-seven-year-old Meyer-Landrut was until recently state secretary in the Foreign Ministry. He is considered a top expert on the Soviet Union and had already been ambassador in Moscow from 1980-83.

BALTIC DEMARCATION NEGOTIATOR IN MOSCOW FOR TALKS

PM151359 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 9 Apr 87 p 12

[Kaa Eneberg report: -- "Swedish Fishermen Applying Pressure"]

[Excerpt] According to information received by DAGENS NYHETER Swedish negotiator Ambassador Lennart Myrsten is currently in Moscow for talks on the disputed Baltic zone. The government is now making every effort to bring about a rapid end to the dispute, which is almost 2 decades old.

Myrsten's 2 days of talks with the Soviet delegation head, Foreign Ministry Treaty and Legal Department Chief Yuriy Rybakov, are to be viewed as informal discussions and a preparation for the formal talks which will take place in Stockholm later this year. The date for the next Stockholm session has not yet been fixed, but could perhaps be decided during Myrsten's visit to Moscow. The information that informal talks on the demarcation line issue in the Baltic began in Moscow yesterday was given at a news conference at the Soviet Embassy in Stockholm.

The two delegations have had two formal sessions -- the first in Stockholm a year ago and a later one in Moscow. The new round of negotiations was started in the framework of the mutual efforts toward improved relations between Sweden and the Soviet Union which preceded Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson's visit to Moscow in April last year. At that time there had been no negotiations since the spring of 1982 when they collapsed after an attempt by Sweden's nonsocialist [borgerlig] government to solve the zone question

Both sides have been most unwilling to say anything about the talks, but on the Swedish side it has been said that some movement in the previously unshakable Soviet attitude had been noted and this means that it is worth holding further negotiations.

The conflict is about where the so-called median line is to be drawn in the Baltic. Supported by international law, Sweden claims that this line should be drawn halfway between the Baltic republics and Gotland, while the Russians are unwilling to count Gotland and take the view that the median line should be drawn between the Baltic republics and the Swedish mainland. [passage omitted]

PRAVDA NOTES END OF SPANISH CP CONGRESS

PM051405 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Apr 87 First Edition p 4

[PRAVDA and TASS correspondent report: "Work of Congress Over"]

[Text] Madrid, 27 Apr -- The Second Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain [PCPE] Congress completed its work here last night. At the final session, the congress delegates unanimously approved the political resolution. It stresses in particular that in the present international situation the Soviet Union's peace policy, which expresses the very essence of a socialist society, counters the United States' aggressive and bellicose policy, which intensifies the threat of nuclear war. [paragraph continues]

The USSR is launching a peace offensive, putting forward proposals on disarmament and displaying a sincere will to go forward toward a world free of nuclear weapons.

As a consistent defender of peace and Spain's national interests, the PCPE declares its most resolute support for the whole package of proposals and initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union.

The document says that the policy of profound social and economic transformations and the broadening and development of socialist democracy approved by the 27th CPSU Congress is socialism's response to the demands of our time and confirmation of the inexhaustibility of the revolutionary potential of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which opened a new stage in mankind's history -- the stage of transition from capitalism to socialism. This course is finding ever wider sympathy among the peoples of the world.

The PCPE will comprehensively promote the further development of the peace movement in Spain and the participation in its ranks of representatives of the broadest social strata and of people who hold different political views and ideological convictions. The congress expressed Communists' determination to continue the struggle for Spain's withdrawal from NATO and for the removal of the U.S. military bases on the country's territory.

The Spanish working class and the broadest section of the population, the resolution points out, are stepping up the struggle against the authorities' socioeconomic policy. Recent actions by metallurgical workers, shipbuilding workers, miners, peasants, and farm laborers are joining with the struggle of students, teachers, medical staff, and workers in the state sector.

The PCPE notes that its participation in the "United Left" coalition has helped to increase the opportunities for strengthening the unity of left-wing forces in Spain.

The resolution says that "Eurocommunism" has caused the gravest crisis in the ranks of the Spanish Communist movement in its entire history. The PCPE again advocated the creation of a united communist party based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, a party of a Leninist type designed to rouse the people's masses for the struggle for the social transformation of society and for socialism and communism.

The congress elected the PCPE Central Committee and the Central Committee's executive committee and secretariat. A subsequent plenum of the PCPE Central Committee has elected Ignacio Gallego party chairman and Juan Ramos secretary general.

PRAVDA NOTES TURKISH 'PEACE CHAMPIONS' SENTENCED

PM061357 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Apr 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Peace Champions Sentenced"]

[Text] Istanbul, 29 Apr -- A military tribunal yesterday sentenced 12 Turkish Peace Committee activists to various terms of imprisonment. Mahmut Dikerdem, the committee's general chairman, was sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment. Those sentenced were charged with engaging in "subversive activities" and conducting "communist propaganda." [paragraph continues]

During the trial, which lasted around 5 years, the defendants categorically rejected as unfounded the accusations leveled against them and emphasized that they considered it their duty to defend the noble ideals of peace.

ALLEGED SOVIET OIL PROSPECTING IN AEGEAN DENIED

PM080857 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 May 87 Morning Edition p 5

[G. Shapovalov "Rejoinder": "VRADYNI's Fabrications"]

[Text] The vocal Greek right-wing newspaper VRADYNI, which has a penchant for anti-Soviet fabrications, recently came out with a stunning piece of news: Moscow is searching for oil on the Greek continental shelf in the Aegean Sea! The Soviet research ship Rift is already carrying out research work between the islands of Crete and Thira with this aim in mind!

Such libels are commonplace in the above-mentioned newspaper. VRADYNI does not even attempt to answer the question which occurs to every sensible reader: Why has the Soviet Union suddenly found a need for Aegean oil? It does not attempt to do this because it is impossible to explain. However, the article puts forward a number of fabrications which make it frankly provocative.

The newspaper maintains that the Greek Government allegedly "gave the Soviet Union the right to carry out seismological research on the Greek continental shelf" and accuses the Greek Ministry of the Interior of "concealing the true nature of the Soviet work." In conclusion there is a clumsy attempt to link this whole set of insinuations with the recent exacerbation of Greek-Turkish differences regarding the rights to exploit minerals on the continental shelf in the Aegean Sea.

Naturally it could be explained to the newspaper that the USSR Academy of Sciences Oceanology Institute, to which the research ship actually called Rift belongs, in cooperation with Greek scientists and in accordance with the Soviet-Greek program of scientific and technical cooperation is working on not applied but fundamental problems relating to global geotectonics. In other words, the oceanologists and seismologists of the two countries, like scientists in the United States, Britain, France, Italy, and other countries, are interested in the scientifically important seismic processes taking place in the unique region of the Cretan archipelago.

It is hardly worth proving the absurdity of the allegations concerning the transfer by the Greek Government of some kind of rights in the Aegean Sea to the Soviet Union. The newspaper's endeavor to poison the favorable political climate of Soviet-Greek cooperation created by joint efforts in the interests of the peoples of both countries and European peace and security is obvious.

The VRADYNI piece also constitutes an attempt to undermine the USSR's friendly relations with other states in the area, primarily Turkey. The article clearly indicates the desire of external forces, who damaged their reputation in kindling Greek-Turkish contradictions in the Aegean Sea, to drag the Soviet Union into this affair at any price. Evidently such concepts as national interests, the interests of peace and good-neighborliness are foreign to the authors of the article.

SHEVARDNADZE, LIBYA'S AL-TALHI VIEW REGIONAL ISSUES

LD061803 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Moscow, May 6 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met today with Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison (foreign minister) of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi.

The sides discussed the situation around Libya in the context of the situation in the Middle East region and in the African Continent. They condemned the heightening of the anti-Libyan campaign in connection with the events in Chad which the imperialist forces try to use for destabilization of the progressive regime in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, for the erosion of its international positions and for the consolidation of their military-political presence in Africa. The sides emphasized the need to press for a political settlement to the Chadian conflict through ending all foreign interference in that African country and achievement of national reconciliation among Chadians.

The sides pointed to the importance of strengthening inter-Arab solidarity enabling the Arabs to uphold effectively their lawful rights and interests. The results of the recent unifying session of the Palestine National Council are to restore the role of the PLO as the key political factor in the Middle East affairs. The USSR and Libya attach much importance to the strengthening of interaction of advanced Arab countries and the PLO on an anti-imperialist basis.

Touching upon global international themes, the leaders of the foreign policy departments of the USSR and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah noted the community of the approach of their countries to the problems of curbing the nuclear arms race and improving the situation in the world. Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi said that the Soviet Union's peace initiatives, including the recent proposals for the elimination of medium-range missiles in the European continent, meet with complete approval and support by the Libyan side.

The conversation that passed in a friendly atmosphere showed the usefulness of the exchange of opinion between the leaders of the USSR Foreign Ministry and the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. It was decided to continue political dialogue.

Tripoli Reports Talks

LD071700 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1423 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 7 May, (JANA) -- The secretary of the people's committee for foreign liaison held talks in Moscow yesterday evening with Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo and minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union.

The talks, which lasted about 2 hours, were attended by the accompanying Libyan Arab delegation and the secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Moscow; and on the Soviet side, by the director of the Middle East and North Africa Department at the Foreign Ministry, and the Soviet ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah.

During the talks, the two sides exchanged views of bilateral cooperation between the two countries and ways to bolster it in various fields on the basis of mutual interest.

The talks also dealt with the French colonialist intervention in Chad and the situation on the southern borders of the Great Jamahiriyah. In this respect, the secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison pointed out the dimensions of the vicious imperialist offensive directed at the Great Jamahiriyah, referring to the failed barbaric U.S.-NATO aggression launched against the Libyan Arab people in mid-April of last year, describing it as being only one episode of this offensive. He indicated that what happens on our southern borders represents another episode of this offensive.

The secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison stated that French colonialism and U.S. imperialism are now trying to harm the Great Jamahiriyah, this time by way of Chad.

He also reiterated the firm stand of the Great Jamahiriyah toward the Chad people, and said: "We call for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad and the achievement of a national reconciliation among the various Chadian factions, which would result in the forming of a national government including all sections of the Chad people, and which would lead to the establishment of security and stability in this country torn by civil war."

During the talks Shevardnadze stressed the strength of the special relations existing between the Great Jamahiriyah and the Soviet Union, and said that cooperation between the two countries has preeminence in the Soviet leadership's attention.

Shevardnadze also referred to the tense situation in Chad, and said that what takes place there is part of an imperialist plot aimed at harming the Great Jamahiriyah and the progressive states in the region.

He added that the Soviet Union supports the firm stand of the Great Jamahiriyah vis-a-vis this issue, and went on to say: "We know very well that the imperialists have a deep-seated hostility toward the Libyan Arab people and their revolution; that is why they seize every opportunity to harm the Great Jamahiriyah and its revolution."

During the talks the two sides also exchanged views and ideas on many issues of interest to the two countries, and coordinated their stands on these issues.

JORDANIAN PREMIER DENIES CONTACTS WITH ISRAEL

PM071541 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 May 87 p 3

[Untitled TASS report under rubric "News in Brief"]

[Text] Amman — Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has rejected Israeli press claims concerning Jordanian-Israeli contacts and meetings which have allegedly taken place between King Husayn and Israeli Foreign Minister Peres. In a statement to the Jordanian news agency PETRA, Z. al-Rifa'i described reports on this subject which have recently appeared in the press as "unfounded and false." The Jordanian prime minister reaffirmed his country's commitment to the idea of holding an international conference on the Middle East involving all interested parties and the five UN Security Council permanent members. He particularly stressed the fact that the PLO must take part in this conference.

PRAVDA VIEWS PDRY ECONOMIC, POLITICAL SCENE

PM071031 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[Correspondent V. Belyakov dispatch: "Healing the Wounds: A Reportage from Democratic Yemen"]

[Excerpt] Aden -- [Passage omitted] The growing cohesion of the people is best illustrated by the results of the elections to the Supreme People's Council and local organs of power which were held late last year -- 86 percent of the voters voted for candidates backed by the YSP [Yemen Socialist Party]. With a view to the further consolidation of the society persistent daily work is underway to explain the policy of the YSP and the real underlying causes of the January events. In order to ensure the success of this work is it necessary, of course, to strengthen the ranks of the party itself.

"Our first task was to restore the party organizations at local levels," Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, told the PRAVDA correspondent. "We held party conferences at which the new leadership was elected. Now preparations are underway for a YSP national conference scheduled for the second half of June. The elaboration of draft documents that will shortly be submitted for discussion is drawing to a close. We regard the upcoming party forum as a good opportunity for a profound collective analysis of the most recent period in the country's life and for confirming the YSP's political line and its allegience to the principles of scientific socialism. But that is not enough. Negative phenomena have accumulated in our society that must be resolutely overcome. We are drawing up a program of specific measures aimed at accelerating economic development, increasing labor productivity, and meeting the working people's social interests. This has also determined the slogan of the upcoming conference: 'We will translate our words into deed!'"

Any advance in the sphere of the economy costs the Republic considerable efforts. The reason for this is above all the scarcity of natural resources. This is hampering the development of industry and that, in turn, has an unfavorable impact on sociopolitical processes. The working class remains small in the PDRY and is concentrated mainly in small enterprises. In Shabwah Province, for instance, out of 40,000 men employed in the economy only one-tenth are workers. Hence the narrowness of the YSP's social base and the difficulties in countering bourgeois ideology. The creation of a solid raw material base would accelerate industrial development and consequently also the growth of the proletariat. Therefore great hopes are pinned in the PDRY on the Soviet geologists working here, and there is joy every time they have a success.

Objective difficulties were further exacerbated in recent years by the line pursued by the former leadership of the Republic. As Fadl Muhsin 'Abdullah, member of the Politburo and secretary of the YSP Central Committee for economic questions, noted during our conversation, the state and cooperative sectors were weakened in favor of the interests of private and above all parasitic capital. Between 1980 and 1985 imports of goods not rated as essential or connected with the needs of production development had quadrupled, and as a result the balance of trade deficit had substantially increased.

The situation is gradually being rectified. The YSP's January Central Committee Plenum pointed out the need to carry out an economic reform aimed at eliminating the negative trends in the national economy, enhancing the role of the state and cooperative sectors, and developing working people's initiative. A program for the rationalization of imports is being implemented The targets for the 3d 5-year development plan for 1986-90, whose implementation was disrupted by the January events, are being adjusted.

In order to implement our plans it is necessary not just to work hard but also to ensure favorable international conditions for the Republic, consolidate relations with our neighbors, and expand contacts with our friends. The party and government leadership is paying much attention to these questions. Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, recently paid a visit to the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Bahrain and Prime Minister Sa'id Yasin Nu'man visited India and the PRC. Earlier, in February, a PDRY party and government delegation headed by Ali Salim al-Bid paid an official visit to our country.

"The visit opened up new prospects for USSR-PDRY cooperation in various spheres," the secretary general of the YSP Central Committee noted. "The fundamental accords achieved in the course of the visit are now being translated into specific actions. In Moscow we met with a comradely interest in the success of the course steered by our party and a readiness to help us in overcoming our difficulties. We are still at the very beginning of our path. We know that it will not be easy, but that does not worry us."

ALGERIAN-MOROCCAN-SAUDI SUMMIT TERMED 'GOOD SIGN'

LD061349 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 May 87

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksey Zlatorunskiy]

[Text] An event took place on the Algerian-Moroccan border yesterday and it attracted the attention of political observers. Indeed, a meeting was held between the Algerian and the Moroccan heads of state with the participation of the Saudi Monarch. Press agencies in these three countries report that the meeting lasted 5 hours and that Chadli Bendjedid, Hassan II, and Fahd discussed the Western Sahara issue and ways of settling it in detail.

Radio Rabat summed up the statement issued at the end of this meeting pointing out that the two sides were satisfied with the talks held between the two neighboring and fraternal Arab countries. They also said that they were determined to continue their bilateral consultations in order to normalize bilateral relations and solve matters of contention.

The Algerian media commentaries say that a political settlement of the Western Sahara problem is the only realistic solution.

Representatives of both Algeria and Morocco have expressed their gratitude to King Fahd for organizing the meeting.

It might be premature now to assess the results of the meeting so far as the settlement of the Western Sahara problem is concerned since the latter has proved to be quite complex. In light of this fact, the consultations that took place yesterday are extremely important, first because they constitute a new stand for the settlement of international problems, including the most acute one. These consultations also reflect the Arab countries' desire to reinforce their unity. We call this stand on international problems the new political thinking based on realism. Evidently, if a similar stand were taken with regard to the Iranian-Iraqi armed conflict, the situation in Lebanon, the settlement of the Palestinian issue, and the Middle East issue in general, this would also open a road for the settlement of these conflicts. Therefore, the meeting between Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, King Hassan II, and King Fahd could be considered as a good sign regardless of its direct practical results.

PRAVDA REPORTS NESTERENKO'S SAO TOME VISIT

PM071459 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] Luanda, 6 May — A CPSU delegation headed by S.M. Nesterenko, second secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee, was in the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe 28 April 5-May at the invitation of the Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principe (MLSTP).

The delegation was received by Manuel Pinto da Costa, chairman of the MLSTP and president of the republic. He stressed that the strengthening of interparty ties between the CPSU and the MLSTP serves as the basis for successfully developing and intensifying cooperation between the two states. The president expressed gratitude to the USSR for the support it gives to the Sao Tomean people.

M. Pinto da Costa declared his full support for the Soviet Union's efforts in the task of curbing the arms race.

The CPSU delegation had meetings with members of the MLSTP Central Committee Politburo Bureau and state figures and toured the country.

IZVESTIYA ON FRONTLINE STATES' NEWS CONFERENCE

PM071553 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "News Conference in Moscow"]

[Text] A news conference given by a group of representatives of southern Africa's Frontline States, consisting of Zambian Foreign Minister L. Mwananshiku, Zimbabwean Foreign Minister W. Mangwende, Tanzanian Foreign Minister B. Mkapa, and Angolan Justice Minister F. Franca Van Dunem, took place 30 April at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center. They were in our country on a brief working visit to exchange opinions on the situation in southern Africa.

On behalf of his colleagues L. Mwananshiku expressed his sincere gratitude to M.S. Gorbachev for his detailed conversation with the Frontline States' envoys. During the visit, the guest continued, we had talks lasting 3 hours with the Soviet foreign minister. We could not fail to discuss the problems of peace throughout the world and we expressed our support for the USSR's peace proposals.

[Reporter] How do you rate the problems of the national liberation struggle in South Africa and Namibia?

[B. Mkapa] We fully support the African National Congress [ANC], the South-west African People's Organization [SWAPO], and the other progressive forces waging the struggle in all its forms for full political rights and human rights in South Africa.1 The main obstacle to the achievement of Namibian independence and the elimination of apartheid in South Africa is the support received by the South African regime and its apartheid policy from the United States, Great Britain, the FRG, France, Japan, and other Western allies. [paragraph continues]

This is illustrated by their refusal to support economic sanctions against South Africa. We are reassured by the growing support on the part of some political parties, mass organizations, and legislative assemblies in these countries.

[Reporter] What goals is South Africa pursuing with its acts of sabotage against neighboring countries?

[L. Mwananshiku] It is doing this so that we will not give help to the peoples of South Africa and Namibia and to make us dependent on South Africa. South Africa tries to destroy bridges and power lines....

[W. Mangwende] There is also another reason. If we succeed in creating a nonracist state in our region, then how will South Africa justify its apartheid?

[Reporter] How do you rate the cooperation between your countries in the economic and political areas.

[F.F. Van Dunem] It is at a high level. But without the help of the socialist states many of our countries could not have obtained independence. I have come from a country whose people were obliged to fight for independence with weapons in their hands. We especially value the all-around help of the socialist countries.

[Reporter] Do you think that comprehensive sanctions would put an end to the repression inside South Africa and to its aggressive policy toward its neighbors?

[W. Mangwende] We oppose apartheid, racism, and inhumanity, and for this we employ all forms of struggle, including armed struggle. It is quite obvious that the only alternative is decisive measures, comprehensive mandatory sanctions with regard to the Pretoria regime. The United States, Great Britain, the FRG, and certain other countries are opposed to such sanctions.

The correspondent of Britain's THE DAILY TELEGRAPH asked: Does the Soviet Union really have to supply Mig-29 aircraft to the Zimbabwean Air Force?

[W. Mangwende] Zimbabwe is trying to strengthen its defense — including its air defense — capability. We have approached France and Great Britain, we have been to the United States and the PRC, and now we are in the USSR. Firm orders have not yet been placed. We are studying the possibilities, comparing prices and technical indicators.

[Reporter] The whole world knows the facts concerning the wide-scale cooperation between Israel and the apartheid regime in South Africa in the economic, scientific, military, and other areas. Has this problem been a topic of your talks?

[B. Mkapa] The alliance between Israel and South Africa is obvious. We oppose it and we nurture no illusions as to who is on our side and who is on the side of our enemies. The Frontline States refuse to have any relations with Israel. This is our fundamental position which we will never relinquish.

The news conference participants also answered journalists' questions.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF MEXICO'S SEPULVEDA

Holds News Conference

LD061539 Moscow TASS in English 1516 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 6 TASS -- Questions of peace, security and the peaceful settlement of conflicts dominated our delegation's talks with the Soviet leaders, it was stated by the Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda. He spoke today at a press conference here and noted that the climate of political detente should have a positive impact on the international situation. In turn, he said, this should facilitate the settlement of various regional conflicts by way of talks.

The minister said he was of a high opinion of the meetings and talks with the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders. We had a very interesting and heartfelt meeting with the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee at which we exchanged views on questions of mutual interest, Bernardo Sepulveda said. The USSR and Mexico, the minister went on, confirmed the need of struggle to create such an international economic system that allows for a greater balance, first of all in the interests of developing countries. Also stressed during the visit was the need to strengthen the role of the United Nations Organization and to impart such a political influence to it that would enable it to fulfil its mandate in full measure, the Mexican foreign minister stated further.

Referring to Soviet-Mexican economic relations Bernardo Sepulveda noted that the sides had declared for expanding this cooperation. He stressed the importance of setting up a mixed commission that would concern itself with economic and scientific-technical questions and thus facilitate a further development of bilateral relations. Replying to questions by journalists the minister stressed the importance of the Contadora Group's efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the situation in Central America. He voiced support for the Soviet initiatives directed at stopping the nuclear arms race and noted that Mexico and the peoples of other countries were interested in preserving lasting peace on earth.

Departs Moscow for Leningrad

LD062040 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 6 May 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] This evening Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda left Moscow for Leningrad. At the airport he was seen off by Comrade Shevardnadze and other officials. Sepulveda arrived in Leningrad later in the day.

NICARAGUA'S D'ESCOTO INTERVIEWED ON LENIN PRIZE

PM080835 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Interview with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman by V. Silantyev: "'Award to My People.' Interview With Miguel D'Escoto Brockman"; at the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry -- date not given]

[Text] "I feel proud to be awarded the Lenin Peace Prize. I regard it as an award to the heroic Nicaraguan people and would like to express my heartfelt gratitude on their behalf."

"This high award will certainly strengthen our will even more in the struggle for peace, which Nicaraguan people need so badly."

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, who has been awarded the International Lenin Prize "For Strengthening Peace Between Peoples," asked me to convey those words to IZVESTIYA readers and millions of Soviet people.

We had a long conversation with the laureate in the small garden of the modest Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry building. D'Escoto is often called "padre" as he is a priest by education and profession. He talked about his life, his views, and his philosophy.

"If he is honest, a priest can and must serve his people and revolution directed against the privileged classes." This is the credo of a minister who came from the privileged classes himself. He was born in the United States and educated in the best theological institutes and universities. Visiting his native Nicaragua, he became aware of the gulf between sermons on "love they neighbor" and the actual reality -- the Somoza tyranny. He became good friends with the Sandinist revolutionaries. His signature was later to appear on the famous manifesto of 12 outstanding Nicaraguan public figures urging the overthrow of the dictatorship.

Before this happened, however, fate took the padre as a religious missionary to Chile, where the Popular Unity government headed by S. Allende had come to power. Contact with him and other Chilean leaders in that period helped D'Escoto become thoroughly convinced of the justice of the Sandinist cause. From the very first days of the formation abroad of the Nicaraguan Provisional Democratic Junta for National Reconstruction, D'Escoto has been head of the Foreign Ministry. The fact that Nicaragua has been able to win authority in the world arena and the support of many countries and peoples is due to its skilled diplomacy, which has convinced the international public of Nicaraguans' desire for peace, progress, and democracy.

"There is no enmity, no conflict between the peoples of Central America," the laureate told us. "We all want to live in peace. The conflict and the war have been unleashed by the United States, which does not like revolutionary Nicaragua. The way to remove the conflict lies in ending the aggression and beginning talks."

D'Escoto noted the importance of the struggle for a peaceful settlement in Central America and its link with the fight for world peace. He highly appraised the Soviet peace initiatives aimed at nuclear disarmament.

"The Soviet Union acts as the eyes, the conscience, the ethics, and the morality of peoples in their prayer for peace. I may be expressing myself as a religious figure who wholeheartedly respects his own people and reveres God, but I am thinking of the Delhi Declaration signed by Gorbachev and Gandhi, which is the first appeal in history for a nonviolent world. I am also thinking of other very important documents addressed by the CPSU to all peoples -- documents meriting the close attention of statesmen and philosophers. I pray that the Soviet Union will continue to loudly speak out in defense of peace in the future."

U.S. UNCOVERS PLOT TO KILL NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA

LD071907 Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] New York May 7 TASS -- The United States Department of Justice announced today that two right-wing extremists, Donnell Howard and John Norris, were indicated today in Tulsa, Oklahoma, for conspiring to assassinate the Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega.

To carry out their plan the plotters formed a special group of former servicemen. One of the men recruited by them had sec nd thoughts and reported to the FBI.

The indictment also says that Howard and Norris had asked Phil Crane, a Republican member of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, to help them in bringing the terrorists and their weapons to a base in Honduras. Norris is in custody while Howard is a fugitive.

Protest Note Issued

LD081005 Moscow TASS in English 0707 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] Managua May 8 TASS -- The Nicaraguan Government has accused the Reagan administration of executing a policy of state-sponsored terrorism against the Sandinist revolution.

Nicaragua's Foreign Ministry said in a protest note issued Thursday in Managua that attempts to organize assassination plots against Nicaraguan leaders were a result of that criminal and immoral policy. It pointed to the arrest in Oklahoma of two Americans preparing a plot to assassinate Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega as bearing that out.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry said that Washington had been perpetrating dirty aggression against the people of this country over the past six years and that its chief inspirer had been the head of the U.S. Administration.

NICARAGUAN DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORT CITED

LD071755 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Managua May 7 TASS -- According to a report of the Defense Ministry of Nicaragua circulated here, nine reconnaissance flights of U.S. spy planes over the Nicaraguan territory were registered from April 5 to May 5, this year. Apart from it, the air space of Nicaragua was violated on 40 occasions from the territories of neighbouring countries with a view to supplying with arms counterrevolutionary gangs operating in Nicaragua and carrying out aerial photography of major industrial enterprises and civilian structures. At the same time, the report continued, armed provocations staged by the Honduran military became more frequent of late. Nine violations of the Nicaraguan border were registered, including the shelling of frontier posts of the Sandinista People's Army in the area of Vaspan, North Zelaya Department, and Jalapa, Nueva Segovia Department.

According to the Defense Ministry of Nicaragua, the activization of the contras is taking place in the setting of the overall buildup of U.S. military presence in the Central American region. The subversive activities of the contras gangs are carried out against the background of the second stage of the Honduran-American military exercise Solid Shield-87 in which some 100,000 servicemen are taking part. Along with the Solid Shield-87 military exercise which is provocative by its nature, other American-Honduran military exercises are being held, including Vicente Tosta-87. It started last January and will go on till June. However, the report said, despite all these efforts, the counterrevolutionary gangs are suffering serious defeats at the hands of the Sandinist People's Army. Active combat operations took place last month in a number of districts of the departments of Jinotega, Matagalpa, Chontales and Nueva Segovia. During the fighting 723 American mercenaries were killed and 130 wounded. Soldiers of the Sandinist People's Army captured a large amount of weapons and munitions.

PAPERS CARRY MAY DAY CELEBRATION EDITORIALS

PRAVDA 30 Apr

PM061233 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Apr 87 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Solidarity of Millions: May Day Flags Over the Planet"]

[Text] Peace, Labor, May .... These words express the essence of the spring festival. Its traditions are rooted in the struggle of the working people for their rights. The whole world's peoples now mark May Day as a day of international solidarity of the working people who are stepping up their struggle for peace and social progress.

Proletarians of all countries, unite!

Today these historic words are echoing loudly in the hearts of millions. Proletarian, socialist internationalism represents a mighty and invincible force in the struggle for their vital interests and rights. It is no accident imperialist reaction is doing its utmost to prevent the working people from uniting, to weaken, at any price, the unity of the main driving forces of social development. However, nothing can halt the historic changes.

Soviet people are marking May Day in an atmosphere of truly revolutionary restructuring in all areas of our society. Implementing the plans outlined by the 27th CPSU Congress, they are trying to work more efficiently in the jubilee year and to greet the 70th anniversary of Great October in a worthy fashion. The Soviet people's labor and their creative energy are inseparably linked with the consolidation of the economic might of their motherland and the strengthening of the cause of international peace. Peace and the country's security are everyone's concern.

The socialist states' fraternal peoples are inspired by lofty ideals. By their selfless labor they are augmenting the potential of world socialism which represents a mighty and influential force of our time. Summit meetings of party and state leaders of Warsaw Pact countries, broad, businesslike exchanges of opinions on questions of bilateral relations and international problems, and familiarization with each other's experience an the processes of restructuring in the socioeconomic and other areas are convincing and authoritative evidence of the successful development and consolidation of the socialist community.

The peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America are celebrating May Day under the banner of the anti-imperialist struggle. Many of them, having cast off the shackles of colonial slavery still depend economically and financially on their former masters and the neocolonialists. The imperialist predators are brutally exploiting the peoples of most developing countries. Furthermore, they interfere in their internal affairs, blackmail them, and commit acts of aggression against them. Washington is subsidizing and supplying weapons to the Nicaraguan "contras," Afghan dushmans, and Israeli occupation forces. On the day of the international solidarity of working people, Soviet people state their support for the peoples of the developing countries and their struggle for an independent and progressive path of development.

The working class of the capitalist countries is marching in a united front with world socialism and the national liberation movement. The May Day demonstrations of these countries' working people are a kind of review of their strength and readiness to act vigorously to curb the power of capital and thwart aggressive imperialist aspirations. [paragraph continues]

As always, the communist and workers' parties are marching in the vanguard of the fighters for the vital interests of the working people, for peace, and international security. Marxism-Leninism, the eternally valid revolutionary teaching, serves them and all progressive mankind as a reliable compass. We send ardent May Day greetings to the communist and workers parties.

There is no more urgent and important task in the world today than delivering mankind from the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe. The survival of our civilization is at stake. Everyone knows whose fault this is and no propaganda incantations will help imperialism to wash away the stigma with which it has been branded for pushing the world to the brink of a nuclear war. The peoples of all countries, great and small, face an urgent task -- thwarting the aggressive plans of the militarist circles and the military-industrial complex and achieving a normalization of the situation in the world.

The creation of a comprehensive system of international security is a pressing command of our times. The basic principles for the creation of such a system have been drawn up by the Soviet Union and submitted for discussion. People have not forgotten that it was our country which unilaterally observed a moratorium on nuclear explosions for more than 18 months. With a feeling of sincere approval and hope people welcomed the proposal for the total elimination of nuclear weapons by the beginning of the 21st century put forward by M.S. Gorbachev 15 Janurary 1986 as well as the statement issued on 28 February this year on the problem of the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe. The CPSU Central Committee May Day Slogans contain an appeal to the peoples of the world to demand the destruction of nuclear arsenals and chemical weapons and to forestall the militarization of space.

The new peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries offer an opportunity to significantly change the situation in the continent of Europe and the world as a whole. The peoples of Europe are facing the hge task of eliminating nuclear arsenals throughout the continent, achieving radical reductions in conventijonal arms and armed forces, and creating nuclear-free zones. Europe's historic chance must not be wasted. Likewise we must not allow the quest for ways of strengthening the security and peaceful coopeation between Asian and Pacific countries to be dragged out for ever.

The Soviet initiatives were received throughout the world as the embodiment of the new political thinking, they have opened a fundamentally new chapter in the struggle for the elimination of the threat of a nuclear catastrophe, for mankind's survival.

Unfortunately, the new trends and approaches in international affairs are as yet asserting themselves with difficulty. Certain circles in the United States and other NATO countries are still under the spell of the old thinking and are hampering the positive processes in international affairs. Furthermore, they continue to crank up the flywheel of the arms race and steer a course toward the militarization of space. This is a dangerous and hopeless policy. People are resolutely denouncing it and stepping up their actions in favor of peace, disarmament, and reliable security for all.

In greeting May Day, Soviet people are declaring their boundless support for the peace-loving foreign policy course of the CPSU and the Soviet state and their readiness to do everything in their power to ensure a triumph on our planet of a world without weapons and wars.

With a feeling of legitimate pride we pronounce the words of the CPSU Central Committee May Day Slogans:

Long live the Leninist foreign policy of the Soviet Union, the policy of peace and people's security, of broad international cooperation!

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 1 May

PM071435 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 May 87 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Following the Course of Renewal"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] On the May Day banners we read a word of great significance today: Labor. Now that we have an accurate compass -- the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress -- and a corrected bearing has been set, when ideas of renewal and revolutionary changes have taken hold of the consciousness of millions of Soviet people, the main thing in our life is to advance and switch the focus to practical work to implement the adopted decisions. Act, act, and act again -- this is the guarantee of restructuring's success at the present stage. There must be less talk, and more practical action. The main aim now is to think in a new manner, to work in a new manner, and to master new approaches to solving the new tasks.

Restructuring is entering our life. It is demolishing the braking mechanism and is working to the advantage of socialism. The country is on the move and has a second wind. Society's moral atmosphere is becoming more pure, and spiritual life is becoming more interesting and varied. A general improvement in the economic situation is proceeding on this basis, and positive tendencies are gathering strength. This is only the beginning. The main work lies ahead. Many difficulties in the way of society's profound renewal are still to be overcome. Stagnation's inertia, typical of past years, has still not been overcome everywhere. So it is necessary to work still more energetically and effectively, to raise productivity in every possible way, to show more creativity, organization and order, a more scientific approach, and more initiative in economic management, and to develop openness, criticism, and self-criticism -- proven means of socialist democracy. Our common duty is to bring the motherland into the 21st century as a powerful flourishing power.

On the May Day banners are the words: "Peace throughout the world!" Socialism and peace are inseparable concepts. Almost 7 decades separate Lenin's Decree on Peace proclaimed at the dawn of Soviet power from the Basic Principles of an All-Embracing System of International Security put forward at the 27th CPSU Congress. Yet how these documents harmonize in their sense and spirit! The Soviet Union's Leninist foreign policy is a policy of peace and security of peoples and of broad international cooperation. A policy aimed at freeing mankind from the horrors of war and its consequences and at ensuring lasting peace on earth. The communist party and the Soviet state consider that the people have no more important task now than the struggle against the threat of a nuclear catastrophe, for the curbing of the arms race, and for disarmament.

So long as international reaction whips up the arms race and does not abandon its policy of social revenge and "crusades" against socialism, the USSR and the Soviet state will do everything necessary to keep the defense might of our country and the socialist community at the requisite level. The CPSU Central Committee Appeal to the Soviet people on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of Great October said: "The Soviet people can be sure: We will never allow military superiority on the part of imperialism, not in any circumstances." [paragraph continues]

Our determination to strengthen and defend the gains of socialism and peace on earth is unshakable.

The Soviet Armed Forces are vigilantly guarding peace and socialism's gains. The sons of the people -- the army and navy servicemen -- have taken to heart the CPSU Central Committee May Day slogan addressed to them: Safely protect our people's peaceful, constructive labor and the gains of socialism. They are deeply aware of their great responsibility for the Soviet motherland's security, and they see it as their duty to the people to be always on the alert and in a state of combat readiness guaranteeing the immediate repulse of any aggressor.

The May Day holiday is marching through the cities and villages of our motherland. The Soviet people are celebrating it in a working, militant mood. Our thoughts and our feelings are with the beloved socialist motherland and with the Communist Party, which is leading us along the correct Leninist path. We fervently believe the will and labor of millions of Soviet people will raise our motherland to a qualitatively new level of economic, social and spiritual progress, and we proclaim fervently and enthusiastically:

Forward along the Leninist course of the 27th CPSU Congress, along the path of communist creation and peace!

CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETS PRAVDA'S 75TH YEAR

PM080935 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 May 87 Second Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee greetings message to PRAVDA]

[Text] To the newspaper PRAVDA

The CPSU Central Committee ardently congratulates the editorial collective, the printing plant workers, the writer aktiv, and the millions-strong army of readers of Lenin's PRAVDA on the portentous date -- the 75th anniversary of the first issue of the newspaper.

Throughout these years the CPSU Central Committee's militant newspaper has carried the revolutionary ideas of Marxism-Leninism to the masses and fought for the victory of the socialist revolution and the building of socialism in our country and for peace and social progress worldwide.

PRAVDA'S 75th anniversary is an important event for the CPSU. It is a red-letter day for all Soviet journalists and worker and rural correspondents -- the party's reliable assistants.

PRAVDA and our entire press today are powerful and sharp weapons of democracy, tools for creation, and spokesmen for the Soviet people's interests.

The duty of the press is to support, defend, and develop restructuring, to promote in every possible way the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development, the active translation of the principles of restructuring into the language of practice, living action, and everyday and persistent work, and to struggle for the implementation of every line of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and for the fulfillment of the plan for 1987 and for the 12th 5-Year Plan.

The people are the main protagonists in restructuring. Working people must be the main protagonists in the press. The heroes of our time must be shown in such a way that their example inspires and encourages others to genuinely revolutionary transformations. There must be fewer general discussions about restructuring and more professionalism, questing, and dissemination of front-ranking experience.

Criticism and self-criticism are a proven method of improving matters and a norm of our way of life. Without criticism, openness, and democracy, there is and can be no progress by the Land of the Soviets. The press is called upon to be truly effective and to give no peace to idlers, self-seekers, timservers, and people who are indisciplined and irresponsible. It is important to step up the struggle against bureaucratism, conservatism, inertia, and lack of initiative and to vigorously defend our ideals, moral values, and socialist spirituality. Every critical article must be fair and constructive and must encourage people to be questing and creative and to work in the new manner. It is necessary to more widely develop voluntary work in the press.

The 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution is approaching. The CPSU Central Committee is confident that PRAVDA and all the mass news and propaganda media will make a worthy contribution to preparing for this glorious date, will reveal the organic link between the achievements of October and the present essentially revolutionary transformations, and will actively promote working people's education in the spirit of socialist patriotism and internationalism. Journalists' duty is to continue to conduct well-reasoned criticism of bourgeois ideology and the reactionary essence of imperialism and to work tirelessly for the sake of peace and mankind's social progress.

The CPSU Central Committee wishes PRAVDA workers, their writer aktiv, and all Soviet journalists and public correspondents new creative successes in their noble cause and their work for the sake of the socialist motherland's prosperity.

CPSU Central Committee

Afanasyev Speech at Jubilee

PM061541 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 87 Second Edition pp 1, 2

[TASS report: "A Powerful Instrument of Restructuring"]

[Text] PRAVDA, founded by Vladimir Ilich Lenin, is 75 years old.

A ceremonial meeting devoted to Press Day and the 75th anniversary of the publication of the first issue of PRAVDA was held in Moscow 5 May.

The participants in the ceremonial meeting welcomed with applause Comrades M.S. Gorbachev, Ye.K. Ligachev, B.N. Yeltsin, A.N. Yakovlev, and G.P. Razumovskiy.

Also in the presidium were leaders of the creative unions and the mass media, chief editors of newspapers and journals, and foreign guests.

Representatives of the capital's party, soviet, and public organizations and personnel of newspapers, journals, television, radio, news agencies, publishing houses, and printing enterprises were gathered in the House of Unions Hall of Columns.

Also present were participants in the Moscow meeting of communist and democratic press editors.

The ceremonial meeting was opened by B.N. Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

V.G. Afanasyev, chairman of the USSR Union of Journalists Board and chief editor of PRAVDA, delivered a report.

PRAVDA received greetings from the CPSU Central Committee on its 75th anniversary, he said. The greetings are warm, respectful, demanding, and programmatic. We are boundlessly grateful to the CPSU and its Central Committee for the high evaluation of our work, attention, and wise advice. We will follow this advice unswervingly.

Our time, the speaker continued, is a time of radical restructuring of all spheres of social life. Restructuring embraces not just production, but also other spheres -- political, social, and spiritual. Proceeding from party documents, PRAVDA and the Soviet press in general depict not just the majestic scale and complexity of the process of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development, but also the urgent need for this process and the real possibility of its successful implementation.

To this end it is important to bring our powerful reserves into play, to work with high productivity and to high standards, and to be thrifty in economic management. It is necessary everywhere -- in party, state, economic, and educational work -- to establish a Leninist style of thinking and action, a businesslike, creative, critical, restless style, a style devoid of complacency and bragging, a style in which words and deeds are united.

Acceleration and restructuring can be implemented only in conditions of the maximum socialist democratism, when people feel truly in charge. "Only through the consistent development of the democratic forms inherent in socialism and the expansion of self-government can we advance in production, science, technology, literature, culture, art, and all areas of social life," M.S. Gorbachev said in his report to the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum. "This path alone ensures conscious discipline. It is only via democracy and thanks to democracy that restructuring itself is possible. Only in this way is it possible to provide scope for the most powerful creative force of socialism -- free labor and free thought in a free country."

PRAVDA and our Soviet press in general are a powerful instrument for the deepening and development of democracy.

In making the social atmosphere healthier we must develop openness, the speaker continued. The party has declared a resolute and uncompromising war on bureaucracy, which is the exact opposit of openness and democracy. It manifests itself most strongly wherever professionalism and control from below are lacking and wherever accountability for assigned tasks has been slackened. Polishing the economic mechanism, establishing order everywhere and in everything, reinforcing discipline, organization, and responsibility, and establishing a Leninist style of work everywhere -- these are the means to eradicate bureaucracy. PRAVDA and the entire press are trying to help the party and the state to use these means to the fullest.

Analyzing the social processes which are under way in the country, the speaker noted that openness is the starting point of a psychological restructuring of cadres. The 27th CPSU Congress set the task of making openness into a smoothly operating system both at the center and at local level, since Soviet people want to and must know what is being resolved in the union as a whole and at republic, oblast, or rayon level. Openness is the open portrayal for readers, viewers, and radio listeners of what is happening in our country and abroad. It is the fairness and accuracy of what they are told. The aim of openness is to make Soviet people better informed, more erudite, more convinced, and more confident of the justness of our cause.

Naturally, openness presupposes militant criticism of the negative phenomena incompatible with socialist democracy, legality, or morality. But it does not consist simply and only of criticism. Openness is timely information about what is happening, about the new developments emerging in our country every hour, every day, about competition and its successes, about leading experience, and above all about the experience of restructuring. Openness and democracy are organically interconnected.

We journalists must help the party not just to eliminate the braking mechanism but also to create an accelerating mechanism, the speaker emphasized. Experience of creating such a mechanism is being accumulated. So far there is not much, really just a few crumbs. Therefore the press must be extremely on the ball and accurate.

Communists and the Soviet people support the party's course of restructuring. Soviet people are prepared to do anything to ensure that this course is successfully implemented. It is important to provide scope for their creative labor and the opportunity to take part in decisionmaking and in monitoring the implementation of these decisions. The press is called upon to play an important role in this. We must make more active use of letters from working people, workers, kolkhoz members, and specialists, who are right on the front line of restructuring, and we must enmlist their participation in spot checks, surveys, and inspections, V.G. Afanasyev noted.

The 27th CPSU Congress elaborated an integrated and strong social policy and mapped out a sharp turn toward the solution of human and social problems. It is the duty of PRAVDA journalists and all Soviet journalists to help the party to successfully translate this policy into reality. Press workers are doing much and could do even more to everywhere establish social justice, which is based on the socialist principle of distribution according to the quantity and quality of labor.

Noting that PRAVDA has actively joined in restructuring, the speaker said that the structure of the newspaper has been substantially reorganized. New departments have been set up, some departments have been reorganized or amalgamated, and staff certification has been carried out. However, the main point is that the content of the newspaper has changed. It has become more profound, more problem-oriented, wider in scope, more informative, and more on the ball, and tries to depict the country's domestic life and the international situation in all their complexity and contradictoriness. New areas of work and rubrics have been introduced, newspaper campaigns, "roundtable" discussions, and spot checks on topical problems of the present time are being organized. The effectiveness of the newspaper's articles has increased. Nonethless, the restructuring in PRAVDA and the entire Soviet press is proceeding with difficulty and less swiftly than we would like. Its main objective is to enhance the quality of journalists' work.

The CPSU is the catalyst and leading force of acceleration. Describing how the party is restructuring its ranks and its work in conditions of the strategy of acceleration, how it implements its leadership of the restructuring of all spheres of social life, what positive experience has been accumulated in this sphere, what difficulties and problems are arising, and how they can be overcome and resolved -- this is PRAVDA's general line in covering the party's life.

This year the party, the Soviet people, and the world's progressive public will mark the 70th anniversary of Great October. PRAVDA is seeking fully and comprehensively show the heroic and complex path which our country has traveled in the past seven decades, its magnificient successes in all areas, and its bright prospects. For us journalists there is nobler mission, nothing we treasure more, than to convey Leninist ideas and Leninist principles to the masses and to be in the front ranks of the fighters for communism, V.G. Afanasyev said in conclusion.

The meeting was addressed by A.P. Shevchenko, winner of the M.I. Ulyanova Prize, worker correspondent, and electric locomotive driver at the Far East Railroad Smolyaninovskoye locomotive yard, V.V. Karpov, first secretary of the USSR Writers Union Board, and I.D. Laptev, chief editor of IZVESTIYA. They emphasized that in the year of the 70th anniversary of Great October it is particularly important to develop PRAVDA journalism's revolutionary traditions and to rally fighters for restructuring.

On behalf of foreign news media leaders, Z. Horeni, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat and chief editor of RUDE PRAVO, congratulated the Soviet journalists on their Press Day and the 75th anniversary of PRAVDA. He wished them new successes in their work for the sake of communist building and peace.

On the same day participants in the Moscow meeting of communist and democratic press editors visited the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and laid a wreath. They also laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall.

PRAVDA CITES GROMYKO ADDRESS TO IZVESTIYA WORKERS

PM061125 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Presentation of Awards to IZVESTIYA Workers"]

[Text] On 5 May in the Kremlin A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented orders and medals to a large group of workers of the IZVESTIYA newspaper editorial office, publishing house, and printing plant, decorated for many years of fruitful work in the Soviet press.

Those decorated included editorial collegium members N.N. Yermolovich and Yu. V. Feofanov; correspondent A.I. Pushkar; print shop chief V.I. Serafimin, compositor L.N. Khokhlova, and others.

Congratulating the award recipients, A.A. Gromyko said:

There has been a joyous event for you today: You have received high government awards -- orders and medals which the motherland has bestowed on your for your successes in creation and your selfless labor in the field of the press.

You have received them at the time of your holiday -- Press Day -- and the 75th anniversary of the CPSU Central Committee's organ, PRAVDA, which imparts special significance to the awards.

I think you all remember very well Lenin's saying that the press must be the tool for dragging up laggards and educating people for work, labor discipline, and organization. You could now add that it should be a tool of this kind alongside the other mass media -- television, radio, and the cinema.

At the dawn of Soviet power the term mass media did not even exist, and the reason is clear. It appeared in recent decades. But the fact that our press is just one of these media in no way diminishes its importance. Indeed, surely we cannot compare our present newspapers and journals with their circulation of many millions with what we had before? In our country it has become almost routine for every family to subscribe to several newspapers and journals. I have searchingly asked competent people whether this is so and I have been convinced that it is.

You, comrade journalists, are representatives of an army in whose hands there is a powerful weapon -- the press. The education of millions and millions of people will depend on how it fares in your hands, in other words on what you write about and how you write.

Of course, your thoughts are of good deeds, could it be otherwise. You have been educated in the Soviet land. The party and people direct you toward ensuring that your pen benefits society and socialism.

This is particularly important in the present period, when imposing transformations are taking place in the country under the influence of the 27th CPSU Congress and subsequent party Central Committee plenums.

Much that is correct is now being said about openness. I would like to draw attention to one peculiarity of this feature of restructuring inasmuch as openness is directly linked with the work of the mass media.

Openness comes from above, when detailed reports are given of the activity of our most diverse party and state organs.

But openness also comes from below. It is a manifestation of the masses' political activeness. When correctly used it becomes the basis of people's mutual exactingness. In other words, openness creates in the collective a businesslike atmosphere which is always necessary for obtaining high qualitative and quantitative labor indicators.

It is also a very sharp weapon. The person who wields it must have a high degree of political culture, unfailing objectivity, precise information about the problem, and the ability to proceed only from the interests of the matter, to suppress any personal bias.

In other words, openness must be crystal-clear and honest.

Journalists are not bystanders. Like all ideological workers they bear considerable responsibility for what has been, is, and will be in our society, They work in the people's midst and they must know and express what the people feel and think. At the same time they must do everything to ensure that the party's word become the concern of all the people.

Restructuring bypasses no one and you representatives of the press must march in its vangurd with the party. That this is indeed the case is borne out by today's awards, which are also to a considerable extent linked with your successes in restructuring the work of the press.

Today we can say the press, in the broadest meaning of the concept, has become far more diverse and richer in content and better in form. Of course, there are cases when particular reports from correspondents or a particular piece is inaccurate or not accurate enough. We are not protected against that. If everything were ideal, we would have nothing to compare -- the good with the rest, the accurate with the inaccurate. After all comparison should always exist and it will exist. But the task is to ensure that there are fewer inaccuracies or even better to reduce these inaccuracies to the minimum and to give a little more truth and sincerity. This benefits society, the people, the party, and our great cause of building communism.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev personally, on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers I warmly congratulate you on receiving these awards.

It will be a good thing if they serve as a new charge of energy, ability, and principledness in your further work to ensure that IZVESTIYA always hits the bull's eye in its newspaper target practice, so to speak. For this it is necessary to have a clear head and, of course, a steady hand.

On behalf of the award recipients N.I. Yefimov, the newspaper's first deputy chief editor, and V.F. Nevelskiy, IZVESTIYA correspondent in Leningrad, warmly thanked the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Soviet government for the high honor rendered to them, and assured them they will give all their efforts to the benefit of the people and the cause of restructuring.

P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, attended the award presentation.

FOREIGN MINISTRY COLLEGIUM'S 'MODEST' BEGINNING

PM061851 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "New Thinking and Diplomacy"]

[Text] The 3-4 May enlarged session of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium and its party committee with the participation of the party aktiv was devoted to the course of restructuring the USSR Foreign Ministry in light of the tasks put forward by M.S Gorbachev at the general ministerial conference in May 1986 and the results of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

The report by E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and the speeches by other comrades showed that in the year since the general ministerial conference a considerable amount of multifaceted work has been carried out to restructure the activity of the central apparatus and foreign establishments of the USSR Foreign Ministry. The situation whereby stagnant phenomena affected the approaches to a number of major problems and important avenues has been substantially rectified. [paragraph continues]

The reorganization of the structure of the ministry's central apparatus has been largely completed, its collective is working with greater initiative and returns, as are a number of embassies, and measures are being taken to improve the cadre composition. The course of restructuring, democratization, and openness is starting to produce positive results at the USSR Foreign Ministry, boosting the effectiveness of the work to implement the foreign policy directives of the 27th CPSU Congress and aiding the creative search for ways of settling accumulated international problems, to whose resolution the Soviet people are deeply committed.

At the same time, what has been accomplished is only a modest beginning. As a result of the discussion specific directions and practical steps toward further improving the entire diplomatic service were outlined.

S.V. Chervonenko, chief of a CPSU Central Committee Department, took part in the session's work.

PAPER INTERVIEWS YELTSIN BEFORE BULGARIA VISIT

AU281444 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 24 Apr 87 p 2

[Interview with Boris Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, by Atanas Atanasov, RABOTNICHESKO DELO Moscow correspondent, in Moscow 22 April]

[Text] [Atanasov] Boris Nikolayevich, the restructuring process, which is determining the whole atmosphere of Soviet society today, is a very interesting subject for all people in Bulgaria, and I am sure that during your stay in our country, the first question will be: How is the retructuring process proceeding and what have you achieved in Moscow so far?

[Yeltsin] For the Moscow population the restructuring process mainly involves a transition to intensive development. Intensification is the material base of restructuring. We adopted a difficult decision, a decision that can be defined as a specific feature of restructuring in Moscow. This decision relates to the overfulfillment of the 5-year plan with fewer workers and it concerns foregoing the "import" of manpower from other towns. The first results of this restructuring process can already be seen. In 1986 the volume of industrial production increased by 4.6 percent, or at double the rate of the previous 5-year plan period. Labor productivity increased by 5.2 percent while capital construction almost doubled. The loss of working time diminished by 25 percent. After a 15-year period of stagnation, the building organizations increased their volume of work by 4.4 percent, while the housing construction plan was overfulfilled by 5 percent. I could cite some more statistical data in this regard.

[Atanasov] These figures are undoubtedly indicative and interesting, but it is even more interesting to learn how the results have been achieved.

[Yeltsin] In very general terms we can say we achieved these results by expanding socialist democracy, by setting the people's efforts and energies free, having relieved them from the shackles of administrative and bureaucratic methods, and by rejecting outdated methods of work with cadres which are arresting our progress. We assessed the work of leading cadres. [paragraph continues]

Many of them "woke up" and began to work in a new manner. The assessment began at the level of party organs and especially the CPSU City Committee. We set an example by reducing our own apparatus. We gained new experience in selecting leading cadres. Nevertheless, these first results, no matter how positive they may seem are no reason for complacency. We are fully aware of the fact there is more work awaiting us than we have already accomplished.

[Atanasov] At least in reading MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA we can feel your strong aspirations and wishes to cope with the accumulating tasks more promptly....

[Yeltsin] Naturally, these aspirations and wishes are strong. However, the scope of our task is unprecedented as well. It does not admit any stagnation, but on the other hand, excessive haste and fussing are to be avoided. We are working in the awareness that we do not have much time, but at the same time we do not lose our political acumen and always think about evaluating and checking the steps we have taken. It sometimes happens that we do not foresee certain results of the decisions adopted that we ought to have foreseen. Let us take, for example, the case of transition to a two-shift regime of work in factories. In certain enterprises people's approach to this task was mechnical and formalistic. They just divided the workers into two shifts. The result was pure formalism. As in the past, the only objective was to submit positive reports to the leadership rather than acting for the sake of expediency. common sense, and efficiency. Some people in the enterprises were carried away by the desire to show off, neglecting the workers, the transportation problems, the organization of the food supply, and the recreation of the workers on night shift. As in the past, these questions were postponed to "a later time." Sometimes the economic cadres, and others, are not competent enough. Financial illiteracy in the case of some leaders and managers produced the result that certain Moscow plants that have adopted the self-supporting and self-financing methods are on the brink of bankruptcy. It is proving difficult to implement the state acceptance system and even more difficult to reduce the administrative apparatus. Departmental interests and the selfishness of bureaucratic centralism are the greatest obstacles to progress. Is it not true that all the measures adopted by the CPSU Central Committee are intended to expand the rights of the enterprises and workers collectives? However, there are numerous cases when the central apparatus of the ministries which used to usurp all power, but then shift responsibilities onto others, resists, the reforms. It is proving more difficult than we expected to get rid of the old "diseases" such as report mania [raportomaniya], disregard for social issues, and resting on one's laurels. Despite the fact that we suffered from blindness in the past period of stagnation, the cure for this blindness is proving to be a rather painful operation.

[Atanasov] Can you describe the "instrument", or the medicines, with which you are treating these "outdated diseases"?

[Yeltsin] One of the chief treatments is the critical approach to the deeds accomplished by our predecessors and a particular strictness toward our own deeds. We are greatly assisted by openess -- we openly deal with the problems which prevent our progress. We mobilize public opinion in the struggle against phenomena such as corruption, alcoholism, drug addiction, prostitution, and all kinds of amoral acts. All this is accomplished in the process of democratization of society. This is by no means an easy task. Science must be efficiently coordinated with democracy and discipline, so that all this does not deteriorate into demagogy and anarchy. However, we already feel an increasing lack of restraint in expressing different points of view, and critical remarks are accumulating. People are aware of the fact that their opinions and their stands are respected. The number of passive observers has drastically decreased.

[Atanasov] Boris Nikolayevich, it is obvious, the difficulties you are talking about are numerous. They conform to the scope of your tasks, of the tasks that the Soviet people are facing. This sometimes leads to skeptical opinions, expressing the view that there will not be enough energy to accomplish everything.

[Yeltsin] Restructuring inevitably affects the current interests of individual social groups. This means the inevitable emergence of those who are dissatisfied with the changes. The sharpest clash of interest is felt regarding issues of labor and wages policy. These questions affect millions of people. Numerous problems also emerge with the so-called special privileges. We are seeking methods to overcome the existing lack of proportions. The process is rather painful, but it is supported and approved by the majority of people. For the sake of social justice we are correctly proceeding in the awareness that we are temporarily affecting the interests of a minority which is still unwilling to accept restructuring. The time will come when ever this minority will accept life under equal conditions among their equals as a conscious necessity. The important thing is that the number of skeptics is decreasing, while an increasing number of people believe today in the current successes and work with good will and energy for the common cause. This is the chief argument that convinces us: There is no need to be afraid of the future, we will achieve our goals. If you ask we when the restructuring will be in full swing, I can answer you: This depends upon us. It depends, more precisely, upon what extent we will resolutely engage in the further democratization of all society on the material basis of socialism. We are firmly resolved to do so.

[Atanasov] Boris Nikolayevich, how do you evaluate the cooperation between Sofia and Moscow, two sister-cities, and how can you describe future prospects for cooperation?

[Yeltsin] The friendly relations and businesslike contacts between the capitals of our two fraternal countries, established 30 years ago, actually encompass all aspects of life and contribute to the consolidation of friendship and cooperation between our two parties, countries, and peoples. We have numerous examples of the successful use of mutual experience. We are facing the prospect of making this cooperation more efficient, in the economic sector, above all and the development of progressive forms of cooperation, such as direct production and scientific-technical links, joint enterprises, international organizations, and others. In accordance with the inter-governmental agreements of November 1986, 43 Moscow enterprises with 26 partners from Sofia will be involved in these forms of cooperation.

Naturally, the decisions of the state and party organs of our two countries are not automatically implemented. Much depends upon local initiative. However, such initiatives are sometimes unsatisfactory. For example, bilateral agreements are sometimes too slowly formed. The same applies to the coordination of specific working programs, in particular the economic arguments supporting their expediency. Joint Bulgarian-Soviet enterprises that have been established and are in the process of being established must be more directly aimed at the implementation of the tasks envisaged by the Comprehensive Program on Scientific and Technical Progress of the CEMA Member Countries Through the Year 2000. For the time being, only 24 of the 56 enterprises envisaged for this work are functioning in this respect.

[Atanasov] Your are visiting Bulgaria within the framework of party exchange programs. Can you describe what measures will be adopted in this respect for the solution of the aforementioned problems?

[Yeltsin] The party organizations in our two countries play an important role in expanding and intensifying mutual cooperation. It greatly depends upon how actively the progressive integration forms of mutual cooperation are applied. The party organizations must wholeheartedly promote the roots of innovations, they must propagate and apply the advanced experience that has been accumulated in this respect. We will deal with all this during our talks in Sofia. We plan to sign an agreement of cooperation between the party, state, trade union, and youth organizations of Moscow and Sofia for the period up to 1990. We are convinced that in consistently implementing the plans envisaged by the 27th CPSU Congress and the 13th BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] Congress, the qualitative perfection of socialism, the further consolidation of its international prestige and of its position on the world scene is our common cause, the common duty of all communists and peoples in the fraternal countries.

EDITORIAL ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PLENUM DEBATES

PM301007 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Apr 87 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Lessons of Restructuring. Communists Discuss Decisions of CPSU Central Committee January Plenum"]

[Text] This time the discussion of the results of the party Central Committee Plenum began not immediately, as was formerly the case, but after a slight interval. This was naturally no coincidence. The present, which rejects formalism and show, dictated this approach. A certain period was required to consider more deeply the party documents concerning restructuring and cadre policy and to analyze the situation in the region in light of them and then exchange opinions with comrades within the party organization.

What is the first thing you notice when you study materials from the local party committee plenums? The ideas of restructuring have an increasing hold on Communists and the working masses. Work on an historic scale unprecedented in its novelty and in the depth of the transformations of Soviet society has widely begun. As a result of the changes, a very important political and moral goal has been achieved in the time since the Central Committe April Plenum and the 27th party congress: An atmosphere has been created in which the course of restructuring and of accelerating socioeconomic development determines the main matters in all sections of socialist building. The interests of socialism, the interests of the people, and the prestige of our system have been raised to a new level.

We realize that what has been done is only the beginning and the main work still lies ahead. For example, we are certainly not satisfied by the results of national economic development in the first quarter. The results achieved do not meet the party's high demands regarding the radical restructuring of the economy. Thus the total volume of industrial production rose by only 2.5 percent in comparison with the same period last year, which is less than planned. Commitments for output delivery in accordance with contracts were only 97.8 percent fulfilled, which is less than last year. It is absolutely intolerable that there has been no significant improvement in output quality or in introducing the achievements of scientific and technical progress. The situation has been greatly complicated by deficiencies in the organization of transportation and loading and unloading work.

All this makes great demands on every party organization. Above all it demands an acute lack of complacency about the organization's achievements. It is precisely from these positions that the Communists are called upon to discuss their tasks in the course of plenums and meetings.

Belorussian party organizations would seem to have much to their credit. However, participants in the Central Committee plenum of this republic's Communist Party boasted of their successes least of all. They concentrated their attention on something else — the causes of the slight deceleration in industrial growth, the insufficient quality of goods, particularly in machine building, the slow introduction of scientific and technical achievements, and the poor utilization of the state aid which the local agro-industrial complex receives. It was pointed out in the speeches that there are great reserves everywhere awaiting active use.

Those party committees and primary party organizations which, along with economic problems, center their attention on questions of developing the social sphere are acting correctly. Concern for man and his working, living, and leisure conditions is the party's main concern. A strong social policy is today's prime task.

But is it being properly implemented everywhere? The material from the plenums and meetings provides the answer: as yet, certainly not everywhere. At the Kuybyshev Obkom Plenum the question was raised with great alarm: We may end up in the position of people who cannot keep their word. There are grounds for such alarm. For instance, one of the most burning problems in the oblast is housing construction. It is being resolved quite unsatisfactorily. Economic managers who have placed an impenetrable barrier between themselves and working people's vital requirements were condemned. But the oblast's party committees do little to smash this barrier and secure a radical change of approach toward developing the social sphere.

All party cadres are undergoing the test of restructuring. But, as the plenums note, they stand up to it differently. A substantial gulf has arisen between those who have moved resolutely forward and those who are marking time. Some leaders are finding the school of restructuring difficult. They simply cannot renounce dispatching functions, which do not belong to party committees, and the desire to decide questions for everyone and to hold everyone, so to speak, in the palm of their hand. But, as before, this hinders the growth of cadres' responsibility for their assigned task and the development of their initiative and independence.

One of the central themes expressed at plenums and meetings is the theme of the further development of our democracy. In fact, this is essentially the main point of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum's decisions: the inclusion of the huge working masses, down to every honest Soviet working person, in direct work to manage the country. Many innovations are already entering our lives. For instance, the new-style elections of leaders in party and social organizations, enterprises, and collectives of scientific workers and artists. Both the strong points and the shortcomings and errors existing in this important matter are being thoroughly analyzed at the plenums now being held. It is a question of preventing stage management and formalism and of more attentively considering collectives' opinon.

The party committee plenums and meetings must themselves be held in a new manner. One cannot help noticing that in many places there was much more frankness, professionalism, criticism, and self-criticism in the discussion. At the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and the Moscow CPSU Gorkom plenums, for example, there was specific criticism of almost all the bureau members and secretaries.

At the same time a number of the plenums that have been held show that some party committees are being slow to change their style and methods of work and have not managed to rise to the level of the CPSU Central Committee January plenum's demands. [paragraph continues]

Questions were raised in the traditional way, and militancy and a desire to speak honesty and openly were absent. This kind of superficiality does not equip the Communists for battle, hinders surmounting the gulf between word and deed, and reduced the people's confidence of achieving what is planned. This is what happened at the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee Plenum. This time, as before, the speakers did not dare directly criticize the republic's leaders. Some praised the report and expressed gratitude for its observations. But specific suggestions regarding the improvement of the activity of the Central Committee, its Bureau, and the republic's government would have been much more useful.

Communists are speaking of the huge significance of the stage associated with implementing the January plenum's decisions. This is a special stage. The successes of the country's socioeconomic development and the future course of restructuring will depend to a large extent on how each party organization emerges from it.

TV NOTES PROBLEMS IN ENTERPRISE LAW PREPARATION

OW300443 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Yelena Mironova commentary; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The USSR law on individual work activity comes into force on 1 May. Are the local soviets, the financial institutions of the country, ready for the practical implementation of this law?

[Mironova] Since the Law on the Individual Labor Activity was adopted by a session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in November last year, we have been receiving reports from our correspondents on the inauguration of cooperative enterprises.

Talent and initiative have found their application in both customary areas such as public catering, municipal transportation, consumer services, and the repair business as well as in quite nontraditional areas as well. For example pharmacists from Riga would like to grow medicinal herbs, while cooperatives around Moscow would like to collect medicinal tars [mumiye] in the Altay mountains since they claim it is the most valuable material of its kind in the world.

Generally people are looking to involve themselves in areas not exploited by big industry or in areas where big industry is not coping. The law envisages the broadest spectrum of services -- up to 30 different kinds of services. In describing new business ventures, reports naturally also talk about problems.

[Begin Yu. Kalyukov videotaped report from Ulyanovsk]

[Kalyukov] Just take a look at the premises assigned to him by the gorispolkom. [video shows dilapidated clapboard house] to begin working here, months of repair work and tens of thousands of rubles will be required. So Mansur Kalyamovich Shangariyev, chairman of the cooperative, has run around driving more than 200 kilometers a day in his car. In one office he may get something, in another he may cajole something, and today, he says ironically, he has had a lucky day, he has gotten three sheets of leather, a can of glue, and kilogram of nails. So how can he work?

[Shangariyev] The Council of Ministers has adopted a decision on help for us, but certain instructions have been received by the bank and these instructions require that we submit a plan.

What plan can we submit if we have absolutely no control over the situation? We need time to draw up this plan, we need practical help from the bank. They should trust us, not concern themselves with trivial matters. [end recording]

[Mironova] If we summarize the problems, and we tried to do this after reviewing all the recent reports, and compile all the information for clarity, this is what has come to the fore: Financial dragging of feet, difficulties with premises -- although to be quite fair I should say that in many places this problem is being solved.

For example the hairdressing salons in the basements of old Tallinn, or workshops renting premises at plants, something that is both cheap and profitable for both sides -- and lack of materials, although at the same time a million rubles worth of valuable waste material from big industry have not been put to use. And there is more.

[Begin V. Morozova videotaped report from Omsk] [Morozova] These are cafes -- Cheburek, Varenichnaya, Sibirskiye Manty -- while the establishment of a new pizzeria is being completed. It is true that estimates show 150 small cafes such as this are needed to satisfy the needs of the city's million people. [Video shows Morozova interviewing catering technologist N.V. Doronin in a cafe] Now if we compare your enterprise with another one identical in size, how would you assess productivity?

[Doronin] According to our own rough estimates our productivity is about four times greater, at least four times greater.

[Morozova] How do you achieve this?

[Doronin] Through unification. One of us... [changes thought] well I am the cook, I do this and that, I do everything.

[Morozova] Nobody divides the work? Nobody says I do this and not that?

[Doronin] No. no. [end recording]

[Mironova] It would appear that everything here is successful, but our main enemy is bureaucracy. We telephoned Omsk and our correspondent reported that the cafe was worn out by inspections.

I would like to conclude with a quotation. In suppressing unearned income we must not allow a shadow to fall on those who earn additional income with honest labor. Moreover the state will promote the development of various forms of satisfying the population's demands and providing services, says the political report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th CPSU Congress.

COMMENTATORS VIEW 'OPENNESS, RESTRUCTURING' PROGRAM

LD241125 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1903 GMT 22 Apr 87

[Interview with Aleksandr Bovin; Nikolay Shishlin of the CPSU Central Committee Information Department; Radomir Bogdanov, deputy director of the United States of America and Canada Institute; Academician Abel Aganbegyan; and economist Oleg Bogomolov, by reporter Gabor Izbeki on the "Openness and Restructuring" program marking the anniversary of the CPSU Central Committee April 1985 Plenum; date not given -- participants' answers recorded in Russian fading into Hungarian translation]

[Excerpts] [Izbeki] [passage omitted] I asked Soviet journalist Aleksandr Bovin whether the term perestroyka [word in Russian] can be treated with a scientific exactness.

[Bovin] It means that we do not merely want a little more, a little better; we want to qualitatively change the life which characterizes the Soviet Union of today. We want qualitative changes in both the economy and politics, as well as in the sphere of social relations; that is, in all areas affecting the life of the people. This is the process for which we invented the term perestroyka, which is not the scientific definition of historians, but we are the faithfuls of action; theory is the work of philosophers. [passage omitted]

[Izbeki] I was interested in the opinion of Nikolay Shishlin, deputy head of the CPSU Central Committee Information Department.

[Shishlin] [passage omitted] Naturally, I do not want to underestimate the knowledge of Mikhail Gorbachev as a politician, nor his personal qualities. Speaking for myself, I like the directness with which Mikhail Gorbachev conducts his news conferences, the simplicity of his work method. Mikhail Sergeyevich knows life, knows the people; it really is not institutional knowledge, but his personal quality. After all, Mikhail Sergeyevich worked as a combine harvester, went through all the necessary school and work place ladders. He has two diplomas, agrarian and a legal qualification which, naturally, fundamentally determine his personality. However, the force of attraction which either he or the entire Soviet leadership possesses depends not on him personally but on the changed domestic and external policies of the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

[Izbeki] Nikolay Shishlin makes the press, guides the information. How does he view the role of social publicity and its political significance?

[Shishlin] The press works in the vanguard of the transformation. We could say that it is the loudspeaker of restructuring [perestroyka], but this does not mean that the transformation is not taking place in the councils or in the party itself, because this entire process originated from the Central Committee and the Politburo. However, in the deepening and strengthening of the transformation the press has a primary role, and in general, mass communication has too. After all, all leaders, even including the general secretary of the CPSU address the people via television, radio and newspapers; the press passes on their views.

[Unidentified voice] The press, the media, often creates a storm; journalists often acquire enemies. Who protects them, who supports them in the fight for the renewal of society?

[Shishlin] I think the support received by the press regarding the Central Committee can be described as 100 percent. However, regarding the factory and local newspapers, the transformation does not always occur: There are leaders who do not like journalists very much.

What is the remedy? The organs of the Central Committee regularly debate the problems raised by the press; they decide on the solution of these problems, and if necessary they protect the journalist too. Sometimes it happens that some state or party workers must be punished because they want to water down the criticism, to interfere with the work of the press. It must be understood however, that the participants in restructuring [perestroyka] are not made simply of material, neutral people who were brought up in an ivory tower, but people who even 2 or 3 years ago lived by the old way. The essence is to change these people, to change and renew their thinking. This, however, does not take place.

[Unidentified voice] There are views which hold that the press is [word indistinct] which neutralizes social tensions, but this itself cannot change the situation which brought about the tensions in the first place.

[Shishlin] I don't agree with this. When the press reported on successes but remained silent about problems, it solved nothing because people understood that tasks were not solved. What's more they knew the problems were multiplying. Now the press writes not only the truth, not only allows a releasing sigh for public opinion when writing about debates, but at the same time it mobilizes people to action, to resolve problems. The press awakens the conscience of the citizen, society, and it also helps and promotes everybody getting involved in the process of restructuring [perestroyka].

Work has already begun to prepare the new Press Act, and what's more, decisions have already been made. The principle ideas of the draft are as follows. Most important is that the editors, the editorial committees, are themselves responsible for what they publish. They do not need permission from above. The second important thing is that the journalist has the right to print his own views, his own ideas, and these views will not necessarily coincide with the stance of the party or the government. The view of the journalist is an individual one, or it is view of the paper, and it mustn't be immediately interpreted as the official stance of the party or the government. However, this change requires a lot from the journalist as well. First of all, he should carry out his trade to the highest possible standard. His responsibility also grows, and he must be responsible for his own opinion: If he makes a mistake he must admit his mistake publicly and correct it.

Regarding the obligation to release information I must state frankly that this practice has not yet fully evolved; publicity has, as yet, no tradition, but already sharp criticism has been levelled at those institutions and organizations, as well as organs of power, which use the press or television not only to inform public opinion about their own work but rather to paint a false, favorable picture of themselves. [passage omitted]

It is true that a view, a behavior existed according to which nothing bad could be written about the Soviet Union. The world could not learn of any mistake because an unfavorable picture would then evolve about the Soviet Union in the eyes of world public. Now, on the other hand, we name our mistakes, our problems, and it surprised many that through this a much more nuanced and favorable picture of the Soviet Union has developed. This proved to us that frankness and openness is worth much more than the most perfect, but falsely colored picture. [passage omitted]

I would like to call the attention of Hungarian Radio listeners to the fact that there is a close and unambiguous link between the new foreign policy, and the stormy, energetic and fundamental internal Soviet transformation. Foreign policy must influence the international situation to reduce to the minimum the danger of a nuclear war. The transformation of Soviet society demands the fullest possible peace, a situation in which the Soviet Union can turn as much of its energy as possible into the service of socio-economic development. [passage omitted]

[Izbeki] Bovin gave his opinion on rewriting history.

[Bovin] unfortunately, one of our great problems was the rewriting of history. A leader came, and history was written. Another came, and it was rewritten, and so forth. We emphasize something, perhaps insignificant; the important thing is left out, or it is consciously omitted, and our knowledge is full of blanks. This makes the shaping of the necessary national aelf-awareness extremely difficult; it hinders the laying of foundations, the formation of a communist ideology. For this reason, restructuring, renewal, must be carried out in the social sciences area, thus, in the area of history, too. A writing of the country's true history -- with all of its contradictions and performers -- must be strived at, since history was made by living people, debating, fighting, living people, not saints. Everyone had good and bad characteristics. Such people built socialism, such people made the revolution. However, this striving also applies to philosophy, to the theory of scientific socialism. These have been interwoven with dogmas in the past decades. Now we speak, use phrases, as in the thirties, yet this time passed long ago.

[Izbeki] [Passage omitted] After history, economy. More precisely, what changes are deemed necessary in the Soviet Union, in the management of a socialist economy, so that restructuring should truly be realised? Academician Abel Aganbegyan, who became a world-famous economist in Novosibirsk, joins us. He wrote about reform when it was not yet topical, politically.

[Aganbegyan] We dealt with some questions of detail concerning restructuring; for example, that it was necessary to switch from administrative management to economic management via economic means. We also wrote that intensive development was the future, and economic development must take into account the requirements of social policy, too. However, the new economic strategy, which the party worked out in the last 2 years, is much more than what we wrote. There are many new theoretical items in it which we scarcely, or did not deal with earlier.

For example, the theory of acceleration is new in principle. This means not only a growth in quantity, but also a qualitative renewal. It could be a synonym of intensification. Some say that we wrote about this earlier: They are wrong. Let someone show a work in which this principle was formulated years ago -- it is not possible, because there is no such thing.

Unfortunately, we also wrote very little about management. That was a big mistake. Tatyana Zaslavskaya dealt with this issue, but we did not reach the depths reached at the January plenum. It is a fundamentally new thought that self-management, full independence of management, is necessary in the Soviet economy, and that the leaders should be elected, from foremen all the way to managers. There were isolated ideas about the restructuring of the Soviet economy, but a comprehensive conception such as the one decided by the party at its Central Committee session in April 1985, did not take shape among the economists, which, unfortunately, is partly our fault, too.

[Izbeki] I understand your self-criticism, but at that time new thought was not encouraged very much. Indeed, as I have read, sometimes it was even punished.

[Aganbegyan] That is true. In truth, those who had new thoughts were not encouraged, not praised. Indeed, as you say, sometimes, they were even punished. The essence, however, together with this, is that the various partial ideas did not come together into a whole; a true theoretical school was unable to form.

It is true that later, when its time came, this conception took shape rapidly. Let us just take the material of the April plenum, the 27th congress, or the January's Central Committee session.

[Izbeki] This January's Central Committee session decided that enterprises that manage independently should be the basic buttresses of the Soviet economy in renewal. In your opinion, will the proposed enterprise law be adopted this year, or will it take longer?

[Aganbegyan] No. In my opinion, the enterprise law will be adopted this year. They will not wait until next year. However, in my opinion it is not possible to introduce every item of the law from 1 January, or another, single date, because the conditions are not yet ripe. However, it is essential that the law be adopted. At least 2-3 years are necessary until radical reforms such as the price reform, a changing of the financial and credit systems can be carried out. There must be a change from the central distribution of raw materials and means of production over to the wholesale distribution of the means of production, and direct relations must be created between enterprises. Only after we have done all this will the enterprises be able to switch over to ordering goods from one another. Then it will be possible to stop the direct plan stipulations so that later the enterprises themselves work out their plans on the basis of their stock of orders and general development strategy.

It is not possible to suddenly make a big jump from one situation. For this reason, in our country, restructuring, the reform of economic management, will be realized in waves. People must be taught, and allowed, to manage. The enterprises must be taught to be independent. New thinking, a mental restructuring [perestroyka] does not take place suddenly.

[Izbeki] One basic question among economists is whether the socialist economy is a planned economy or market economy. What is your opinion on this?

[Aganbegyan] In my view, the market in the socialist economy does not mean that we let the forces free. The market is not something that is in opposition to the plan, and they do not preclude one another. It is a planned, organized market, which interacts with the planned economy. However, the plans should not be interpreted as a bunch of orders, but as directions made by way of economic incentives, means of economic regulation. Socialist planning and direction must consist of the rational application of economic regularities, since the classic market, with free competition, does not even exist in the capitalist countries.

[Izbeki] I also met economist Oleg Bogomolov recently. He deals with the economic problems of the world socialist system in Moscow. I asked him if it would be dangerous for the economic reform to be carried out too rapidly.

[Bogomolov] It is possible that there is some truth in this. It is possible that some people really feel that the pace of restructuring, reform, is too fast. However, life itself forces us to do this. It was said at the January Central Committee session that a long time had passed during which time problems had only increased, and no one had taken the trouble to solve them. Now, however, whether or not people are pleased about the tempo, we must solve all of the problems which have accumulated to date at the same time. This forces us to make quick and energetic decisions in the restructuring of both the economy and social life. Together with this I believe that gradual movement must be observed, and as far as I can see, this is the case. Life itself dictates the sequence in which tasks must be accomplished.

The plan for restructuring, which it has been possible to formulate so far, was (?approved) by the 1985 April plenum, then the Congress, and this year's January Central Committee session. This must be gradually -- although all the more consistently -- implemented in order for us to achieve our goals. [passage omitted]

[Bovin] Much depends on us. We must not encourage unfounded hopes in people. The greatest sin now would be for us to spread the belief that after 1 or 2 months, or a year, everything will be in order, and results will come one after the other, radical changes will have taken place in the life of society. If we did this, people would sooner or later become disillusioned about the whole thing. Apathy and discontent would rule.

Just for this reason, one of our foremost tasks is to make everyone understand and accept that perestroyka [preceding word in Russian], restructuring, is a long, long process that can take even 10 years. Too many tasks have to be solved at the same time. What is more, certain tasks have to be understood first, must be decided, before we begin the implementation.

Some things we already understand, some things we are beginning to understand. If we want to answer correctly, then the question must also be put correctly.

A long revolution lies ahead of us. Nobody should expect that if we unite and shout hurrah it will be enough to win. No, the battle here will be long, but without any hurrah.

[Izbeki] That was Aleksandr Bovin. I also asked him the question in almost everyone's mind: What are the guarantees for the success of the transformation, the reform, if there are any.

[Bovin] There are no guarantees in society. In general it cannot be said that this process will unfold in exactly this or that way. The development of society is a living equation of many unknown factors. We of course would like it if there were such guarantees. If we can talk of such guarantees in the case of restructuring, then the social support we have achieved up to now is fundamental. There is such support, and we rely on this.

Regarding the leadership of the countries, I can say that neither Mikhail Gorbachev, nor the Politburo is capable of implementing this restructuring process alone. Even the Central Committee is not enough for this. Just for this reason, I return again and again to mass support. The task of leaders is to analyze the situation, gather experiences, bring appropriate resolutions on the basis of these, show the direction of development, and organize implementation. But, it is fundamentally the interests of the masses, of society, which must lead them. Politics is where the masses are. Where there are only four people, that is not politics, but making politics.

Regarding the party, it is true there are people there, too, who are against the transformation, because they have become too accustomed to the old life, which suited them. Many people got higher and higher, without democracy and openness, and it is logical that this is what would suit them today, too. It is possible, that these people, in proper circumstances, would not get anywhere. These people, naturally, do not build barricades. These people do not bring counterresolutions, they offer passive resistance. They are the ones who sabotage the transformation. What is more, they have already learned, from their own time, that the phrases and slogans must be learned and repeated as often as possible. They shout hurrah, hurrah, but sabotage the actions.

There is also another layer, which in fact can almost be called young, made up of 40-50 year olds. These people are very different, but were all raised on the earlier routine. Quite simply, they got used to everything going along as it did. They are the ones for whom restructuring [perestroyka], the transformation, means that they must leave their high positions. Those who are not in such positions, but think similarly, need the transformation to perhaps get to that position. But once there, they endeavor to put an end to the renewal so that their position cannot be threatened by someone else. [passage omitted]

UKRAINIAN MINSTERIAL RETIREMENTS, REPLACEMENTS

AU071959 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 30 Apr 87 p 3

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium has relieved Comrade N.P. Shulgin of the duties of Ukrainian minister of highway construction and maintenance due to his retirement on pension for health reasons.

The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium has relieved Comrade V.D. Baytala of the duties of Ukrainian minister of the forestry industry due to his retirement on pension.

Samoplavskiy Appointment

AU071958 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 30 Apr 87 p 1

["A Decree of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves to appoint Comrade Valeriy Ivanovich Samoplavskiy Ukrainian minister of the forestry industry.

V. Shevchenko, chairman, and N. Khomenko, secretary of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The city of Kiev, 29 April 1987

Born in 1952, V.I. Samoplavskiy is a Ukrainian and a CPSU member since 1979. Having graduated from the Ukrainian Agricultural Academy, he worked at enterprises under the Ukrainian Ministry of the Forestry Industry as an assistant forester, a forester, a chief forester, and director of a forest industry enterprise. From 1985 he was chief engineer, and from 1986, chief of the Zhitomir Oblast administration of forestry industry and timber procurement.

Guts Appointment

AU071957 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 30 Apr 87 p 1

["A Decree of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves to appoint Comrade Viktor Timofeyevich Guts Ukrainian minister of highway construction and maintenance.

V. Shevchenko, chairman, and N. Khomenko, secretary of the Ukrainian Supreme Presidium.

The city of Kiev, 29 April 1987

Born in 1936, V.T. Guts is a Ukrainian, a CPSU member since 1965, with higher education — he graduated from Lvov Polytechnical Institute.

Having graduated from the institute, he worked as a work superintendant, a senior engineer, a sector chief, and a chief engineer on road organizations in the Belorussian SSR and Kharkov Oblast, and for 9 years he was chief of the Kharkov Oblast administration for highway construction and maintenance.

From 1978 he was deputy, and from 1983, Ukrainian first deputy minister of highway construction and maintenance.

GORBACHEV, OTHERS SIGN I. MOROZOV'S OBITUARY

PM041845 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Apr 87 Second Edition p 3

[Obituary of Ivan Pavlovich Morozov]

[Excerpts] Ivan Pavlovich Morozov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, individual union pensioner, and former first secretary of Komi Party Obkom, died suddenly 26 April 1987.

I.P. Morozov was born 30 September 1924 into a peasant family in the village of Mezhador in the Komi ASSR's Sysolskiy Rayon and graduated from Suktyvkar Medical School and, by correspondence, from the Higher Party School under the CPSU Central Committee. [passage omitted]

During 1965-1987 I.P. Morozov worked as first secretary of Komi CPSU Obkom. In March 1987 he become an individual union pensioner. [passage omitted]

M.S. Gorbachev, G.A. Aliyev, V.I. Vorotnikov, A.A. Gromyko, L.N. Zaykov, Ye.K. Ligachev, N.I. Ryzhkov, M.S. Solomentsev, V.M. Chebrikov, E.A. Shevardnadze, V.V. Shcherbitskiy, P.N. Demichev, V.I. Dolgikh, B.N. Yeltsin, N.N. Slyunkov, S.L. Sokolov, Yu.F. Solovyev, N.V. Talyzin, A.N. Yakovlev, A.P. Biryukova, A.F. Dobrynin, A.I. Lukyanov, V.A. Medvedev, V.P. Nikonov, G.P. Razumovskiy, I.V. Kapitonov, N.Ye. Kruchina. Ye.Z. Razumov, V.I. Melnikov, Yu.A. Spiridonov, N.V. Gusyatnikov, N.P. Zashikhin, Yu.I. Semukov, A.F. Syutkin, V.I. Khudyayev, N.P. Kondyrev, V.G. Kurskikh, A.A. Pozdeyev, V.V. Sviridov, V.N. Ptitsyn, V.S. Stepanov, P.M. Telepnev, Z.V. Panev.

YUGOSLAV WRITER SAYS GORBACHEV FORCED TO REFORM

WA061500 Zagreb DANAS in Serbo-Croatian 10 Mar 87 pp 47-51

[Drago Buvac article: "How the Slump Set In: Under Brezhnev the Economy Sank All the Way to a Collapse of the Economic System"]

[Text] Although now Soviet economists discuss what until recently were the taboo topics of the economy of "mature socialism" — indeed, that phrase, coined prematurely, has vanished without a trace from the vocabulary — altogether more freely, to the more abundant, encouraging, and louder accompaniment of the public party and government media — and they discuss not only commodity production, but also the market and even possible inflation and the dangers of unemployment or bankruptcy of enterprises — the good old tradition of "underground" literature has not died out among the unofficial channels of communication.

During my stay in Moscow I happened to get my hands on a tiny mimeographed pamphlet by B. Isayev, a certain doctor of economic sciences, who once again is concerned in his way with the standstill of the Soviet economy and is unriddling its causes and offering recipes for recovery. In all of this there is an unconcealed nostalgia for the discipline of the Stalinist period when the growth rates in socialist industrialization were high, and the malicious fingers of the conspiracy of the domestic and worldwide "Zionist-Masonic lodge" are seen in the search for the causes of the present slump. That view about solving the problems of the Soviet economy would hardly deserve attention as an illustration of one of those offshoots of the Gorbachev era that are an inevitable concomitant of the democratization of society, when not only are old illusions being shattered, but new ones are also being created. The tiny mimeographed material deserves to be made use of, however, if not for its ideas, then at least for certain figures on the place of the USSR among the leading world economies, when the United States has moved far ahead of it, and Japan has come quite close to it (which is still more disturbing to the author of that "samizdat").

The ranking of the most powerful world economies, then, is as follows with respect to GNP: 1. United States — 3.9; 2. USSR — 1.8; 3. Japan — 1.7; 4. West Germany — 0.9; and 5. China — 0.8 (in billions of dollars for all countries). Then it is worth adding to this the data on the value of productive potential: 1. United States — 1.9; 2. USSR — 1.2; 3. Japan — 1.1; 4. West Germany — 0.5; and 5. China — 0.4 (again in billions of dollars). Finally there comes the ranking of those same countries by per capita national income: 1. United States — $13,000; 2. Japan — $12,000; 3. West Germany — $12,000; 4. USSR — $5,400; and 5. China — $600.

Blockade of the System [subhead]

Without spending any more time on the motives of the author of that pamphlet, nor with that perpetual dispute among economists about the comparability of such data because of differences in official exchange rates and the actual purchasing power of the various currencies, for anyone who has the patience to concern himself with this string of numbers, scant though it be, there is quite a bit of economic inspiration.

Just take, for example, the way the United States achieves an output that is twice as great and a per capita income that is still larger than the Soviet Union with a productive potential that is only about 60 percent larger. Or the way Japan has almost caught up with the Soviet Union from its very low postwar base and with accelerated industrialization, even though it is not a socialist, planned economy. (Until recently accelerated growth was in theory and ideology a synonym for the advantage of a centralized economy.) [paragraph continues]

The figures, then, are also indicative from the standpoint of the position of the Soviet economy and state in its Asian and West European external political environment. Anyone who because of his sympathy toward any socialism, either in the Soviet Union or as an outside observer, had the strength to resist the "gloss" applied by the powerful Soviet propaganda machine, could see this outcome of the economy of the "first country of socialism" dropping off the pace still earlier. The 1965 economic reform was not an accident. Even then the "warning lights" went on, indicating that the extensive mode of economic activity, we might call it the glorious and perhaps inevitable "era" of socialist industrialization, had reached its limit. It is a real pity that the reform at that time was not successful and that they did not follow through with it. When I talked recently in Moscow with Soviet economists, I noticed how nostalgically they sigh for those lost years and show how optimistic signs of invigoration were recorded in every respect during that 1st year, between 1965 and 1967, when the economy was granted a bit more freedom from administrative bonds. The bureaucratic machine crushed that new departure, assuredly so as not to be crushed itself, and in what is called Brezhnev's time the Soviet economy sank into ever deeper inertia.

Even then it was widely thought among Soviet economists that this was a high price to pay for the slump. To be sure, the present kind of democratic atmosphere had not developed at that time, an atmosphere in which the problems of the transition from the extensive mode of economic activity to the intensive mode can be reasonable discussed in public. The leading Soviet economists were moved off the public stage. At a conference of Soviet economists in Moscow in 1968 L.V. Kantorovic, mathematician and econometrist, who later was also the first Soviet Nobel Prize winner for economics, spoke as representative of the "Writers Association." The foremost Soviet planner Baybakov loftily rejected his mathematical theories as taking "progressive Soviet economic thought" back to the positions of the "bourgeois theory that had been superseded." Genadiy Lisichkin was still able to publish something as a member of the Writers Association in NOVYY MIR or other literary journals, but not in economics publications. (We wrote about Tatyana Zaslavska's fate in the last issue of DANAS.) But if you have had the patience to follow the professional journals in which the authors have been hiding skillfully behind quotations from Leonid Brezhnev, the 24th CPSU Congress, or mathematical formulas inaccessible and incomprehensible to the broad public, then you have been able to see that by and large it was clear to leading Soviet economic thinkers where the Soviet economy was plunging. When we today assess the behavior of those leading Soviet economic thinkers from that angle, with all the tragic consequences of individual human destinies, we must recall Faulkner's message: "They endured" -- and today it has turned out that they were right.

Even in that time of self-satisfaction with "mature socialism" it was clear the Soviet economy could no longer keep up the current rate of economic growth. At the time when I was gathering data from Soviet sources for my book "Sovjetska Alternativa," I came to the conclusion that the old rate could no longer be maintained and that following its spectacular growth it had then already fallen to 5 percent at the end of the Ninth 5-Year Plan. Economic growth continued to fall to about 3 percent, which is where it was when Mikhail Gorbachev came to power. Why? The sources for extensive economic activity were exhausted. The inefficient employment of cheap, unmotivated, and unutilized manpower had led to a shortage of workers. Then an endeavor was made to make up everything through a larger investment of capital, but this also reached a limit of 40 percent of the national income. They could not go any further without hurting incentives because of the low earnings and standard of living. Finally, the lack of efficiency was concealed by the consumption and export of petroleum and other natural resources, but the drop in petroleum prices and other difficulties on the world market set limits even on that inexhaustible and abundant nature. The socialist economic system could no longer be satisfied with any of those three basic criteria of economic activity V.I. Lenin set for it: [paragraph continues]

It was achieving neither faster economic growth, nor "comprehensive development of the personality" measured in the rise of the standard of living, nor a higher efficiency of "social capital."

As far as the latter is concerned: Each ruble invested in the ever larger investment projects was yielding an ever smaller growth of the national income. From the economic standpoint the system was for all practical purposes blocked and could be kept in place only by factors outside the economy (agitprop, shutting itself off from the rest of the world, inventing enemies where they really exist and where they do not, military power, and police control of society), and that is the way it was when Mikhail Gorbachev inherited it.

A Historical Figure [subhead]

This is a good place to stop in this train of thought, which has been more or less already accepted in the Soviet Union. There has been a great deal of diplomatic and journalistic speculation about the "Gorbachev phenomenon," which was unthinkable perhaps just a few years ago, and it is hard to free oneself of that contagion. For instance, how did a politician with such progressive ideas manage to make the way to the top through that bureaucratic stratum? Even the liberated Soviet press offers quite a few allusions for guesses of that kind: about Gorbachev's election, who was in favor and who was against, and the role played by Andrey Gromyko in that. Why is it that only Shcherbitskiy in the Ukraine remains at the top of the party from Brezhnev's team, which Gorbachev has been criticizing even in public? Is it because of the delicate nature of the nationality question, which Alma-Ata with its recent demonstrations has cast into the light of day after the idyll of the "new Soviet man"; or because the leading figure in the Ukraine gathered more points because long ago he was against building the Chernobyl nuclear power plant near Kiev, with its population in the millions; or because he publicly renounced his proteges in Voroshilovgrad in PRAVDA? We might go on with guesses of that kind. How long will Gorbachev still hold support in the Politburo for his "restructuring"? Does Ligachev, his "leading ideologist," after all want to adhere to "socialist dogma" or to Gorbachev? Are Yeltsin, the radical who is the top man in Moscow, and the new ideologist Yakovlyev still pushing too far "rightward"? These are all contagious questions raised in diplomatic and journalistic conversations of "kremlinologists" in Moscow and elsewhere.

Without underestimating even this type of political analysis, during such conversations in Moscow I was constantly obsessed by the economic facts of the collapse of an economic system: Sooner or later there had to be a Gorbachev. What he is doing now, regardless of his individuality and personal political philosophy, is a dictate of historical necessity -- and in that classical and truncated Plekhanovian line of thought, he is an inevitable historical figure. This is true from two angles: First, because they could not go any further that way, and second, because the conditions, which until recently were still invisible to many observers of "high diplomacy," have matured for this kind of new departure in the Soviet economy and society.

I will attempt to back up this argument through the actual conversations I had in Moscow, such as a conversation with Otto Latsis, doctor of economic sciences, who recently moved "by party assignment" to the journal KOMUNIST as its leading Soviet political columnist.

I met Latsis in an office where he was preoccupied with an analysis of statistical data. We agreed at once about the unfavorable declining trend of Soviet economic growth. According to him the minimal growth of the Soviet economy would have to be 4 percent, but beyond 6 percent is unrealistic. [paragraph continues]

Why is 4 percent minimal? According to him, because the growth of 3.1 percent in the last 5-year planning period fulfilled the basic needs of development below the critical limit, first because of the population growth and then also because of the declining efficiency of productive resources. Because of this state of affairs "in 1982 we had in the Soviet Union even a stagnation of the growth of per capita national income for the first time in our history. And what does a growth of only 3 percent mean? That is only R7 billion of growth in the real national income. The basic problems in our development cannot be solved with that kind of money.

"Let us take one example -- housing," Latsis said and went on: "The sociologists feel that this is our most serious problem.

"We have 14 square meters of housing on a per capita basis, while in West Germany, say, they have 26. If we want to increase that area by just 10 square meters, that means 25 billion a year, and that solution requires the effort of an entire generation for 40 years. Then comes the problem of the extremely low pensions. Teachers and physicians are extremely poorly paid.

"Let us also add to this the problem of ecology, and there are no figures on military needs. With a 3-percent economic growth we cannot solve any of these problems. Accordingly, without restructuring there is no acceleration of economic growth -- yet there is no other choice.... It is not a question of whether we can see the restructuring through -- there is no way we could go on like this any longer."

Shattered Illusions [subhead]

Calculations of this kind -- and one of the leading designers of the "restructuring," Aganbegyan, concerns himself with more detailed figures in his writings -- show at least two things. First, they shatter the deep-seated illusion about how Soviet society had nevertheless developed the "social standard of living," even if it had not been altogether successful in dealing with the population's everyday consumption, which foreign observers of the lines in stores could not have failed to spot in a superficial examination. I know from personal experience that I was never able to persuade our "socialistically oriented" visitors in the Soviet Union, who, of course, were usually there on a well-organized business arrangement, that the Soviet pension system, health care, the schools, or worker vacations were nevertheless poor and good only for the privileged strata. They were regularly persuaded that the "social standard of living" was extremely good and had been set up with socialist fairness, even at the expense of there being lines of dissatisfied consumers in front of stores.

Even the Japanese socialist Sabura Eda had a vision of Japanese society that would be the best because it would achieve the American personal standard of living, Japanese postwar peaceful policy, and the Soviet social standard of living. But that is merely an aside. The main conclusion from that conversation with Latsis comes down to the fact that Gorbachev objectively has no other alternative than to push "restructuring" through, since only it will make it possible to accelerate economic growth, on different foundations, of course, thereby also achieving the goals of socialist society.

This policy of Gorbachev is not unrealistic in the least. What is more, it has already ripened even under the surface of a stagnation of economic growth and false, idyllic social relations. Many of these phenomena escape foreign observers and, perhaps, even domestic observers. The production relations have been constantly breaking the existing bureaucratic shells. Perhaps it began with that famous Shchekino experiment, when the transition to "khozraschet" showed how earnings could be increased with higher productivity. [paragraph continues]

Then with greater or lesser political support and trickery in practice they developed the "brigade systems" of Zlobin and Serikov, when work brigades contracted for jobs with their enterprise and out of the results of their better work and higher productivity, which was even up 25 percent on an annual basis, they shared out better earnings. A new practice in agriculture was also developing under the dictate of life itself, not only on the private garden plot, but also with the leasing of land and the linkage between the kolkhoz and industry to create diverse forms of contractual relations which were almost like those of a joint stock company, outside the limits of the central plan and the planning targets of their ministries and administrations, and this occurred separately in Georgia, Estonia, or Latvia.

When one penetrates into all these vital juices that were nurturing the tree of economic life outside of and alongside the central plan, and then where they could not be seen by the spotlights of those who like to do diplomatic and political crossword puzzles, it is worth noting that Gorbachev sprang up on his own socialist and national soil: as the only signpost for emerging from the full-blown crisis, but also as a token of the conditions that had matured for overcoming that crisis.

MEDIA COVERS 4-6 MAY AGRICULTURAL WORK

LD080136 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 4-6 May. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

4 May

Belgorod Oblast has sown early grain and fodder crops on over half the allocated area: thousands of hectares are being planted with sugar beet and sunflower. (0204)

Report from Stavropol: The sowing season should be coming to an end, but seed-drills are still standing idle thanks to the unprecedented prolonged cold spell. But at farms in the kray, it was decided to increase the harvest of corn for feed grain, increasing it to 500,000 tonnes. Compared to the previous 5-Year plan period, acreage for the crop has been expanded by one-third. Work lies ahead to resow "tens of thousands of hectares" of winter crops because of the weather. (2004)

5 May

No fileworthy items monitored.

6 May

Winter crops and perennial grasses are being sown in the north of West Siberia on 400,000 hectares. On half the area grains will be cultivated intensively. (0000)

Southern areas of Chita Oblast have begun sowing grains. The total area under grain here will be almost 1.5 million hectares. (0204)

Belgorod Oblast farmers have sown barley, peas, oats, annual grasses, and rape-seed on an area of over 350,000 hectares in only 5 days. (0400)

To date, Ukrainian farms have sown one-half the area allocated to crops, amounting to more than 10 million hectares. (0400)

The area to be sown with buckwheat this year in Stavropol Kray will be expanded to 26,000 hectares. (0400)

The sowing of sunflowers is getting underway in Orenburg Oblast. It is a demanding crop, especially as regards tending and the time of harvesting. The crop husbandry service of collective and state farms has of late not been devoting due attention to this matter. Part of the sunflower crop was unjustifiably written off for fodder needs. The outcome was that the yield of oil seeds was sharply reduced. Sunflowers take up 120,000 hectares in Orenburg Oblast. This year the crop farmers are trying to correct the situation. On large areas sunflowers will be grown in accordance with intensive technology. (1300)

Spring sowing has reached the fields of the central oblasts on the non-Chernozem Zone. Spring sowing has been started by the farms of Kalinin, Yaroslavl, and Vladimir Oblasts. Altogether some 27 million hectares had been sown to spring crops by the beginning of this week. One-half of this area was set aside for grain crops. So far, only one-seventh of the spring grain crop has been sown. The main areas have been set aside for them in Povolzhye, Siberia, and northern Kazakhstan. One of the major tasks here now is moisture retention in the soil and clearing the fields of (?weeds) prior to the start of sowing (2000)

IZVESTIYA REPORTS CSA SOWING DATA AS OF 27 APR

PM061245 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 1

[V. Gavrichkin "Agricultural Review": "Contract Collective in Charge"]

[Excerpt] According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, by 27 April spring crops had been sown on 15.8 million hectares of the country's fields -- 11 percent of the planned area; grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) had been sown on 6.7 million hectares -- 8 percent of the planned area. [passage omitted]

MOSCOW TV NOTES CSA SPRING SOWING FIGURES

LD062001 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 6 May 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; announcer-read report]

[Text] This year spring has confused all the farmers' calculations. Because of the cold spell in many rayons sowing has been delayed by a whole month. But in the last 7 days the rates of work have considerably increased. Today the editors received a report from the USSR Central Statistical Administration. It says that by 4 May spring crops had been sown on 26.6 million hectares, 18 percent of the designated land.

RESEARCHERS VIEW NUCLEAR ENERGY PROSPECTS

PM070921 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 30 Apr 87 First Edition p 3

[Article by Doctor of Technical Sciences Yu. Bublik, laboratory chief at the USSR Gosplan All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Comprehensive Fuel and Energy Problems, followed by commentary by academician V.A. Legasov, deputy director of the I.V. Kurchatov Atomic Energy Institute: "Safety and Energy. How AES's Are To Develop"

[Text] These questions are frequently asked now: "Is it possible to dispense with nuclear stations altogether? "If not, are we sure our nuclear reactors are safe?" These problems are of concern not only to scientists but also to very broad sections of the population, and people write to SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA about this. This is precisely why I would like to share my thoughts on it.

It has come about historically that the country's most economically developed territory is its European part. Some 75 percent of the population lives here, and a large proportion of energy-intensive production facilities is located here. As a result, 80 percent of all the fuel and energy resources are consumed today west of the Urals and in the Urals, whereas the main reserves (more than 90 percent) are located to the east and southeast of the Urals. The consequence of this is that fuel accounts for precisely 40 percent of all shipments from east to west.

What is the way out? We must try to move as many energy-intensive production facilties as possible to the east. At the same time, we must enhance the efficiency of energy resources use in the European part of the country. But our potential here is not infinite. The use of hydropower resources on the European plain is now twice as great as in other regions. Coal is already being extracted in the Donbass at a depth of more than 1 km and from narrow seams (in the region of 60 cm). It is possible to generate electricity right where the coal stocks are (the Kansk-Achinsk Territorial Energy Complex, the Kuzbass, Ekibastuz) and then transmit it to the center of the country. But power losses are very great here, and this does not resolve the task of providing the national economy with heat, which now accounts for up to 50 percent of all the organic fuel extracted.

Therefore, we do not have, either today or in the immediate future, any economically substantiated alternative to the accelerated development of nuclear power generation. In practice AES's are not tied to places where uranium is mined or processed, and, what is more, the operating process of some kinds of reactors entails the industrial production of secondary nuclear fuel, that is, nuclear power generation can attain a regime of self-sufficiency in fuel. In addition, under normal operation, pollution from AES's is minimal, whereas a coal-fired power unit with a capacity of 1 million kilowatts discharges several tonnes of uranium [as published] into the air together with smoke during a year's operation.

In 1985 AES's generated 10.8 percent of the electricity in the Soviet Union. I will note that this indicator is even lower here than in other counties. Nuclear power stations accounted for 15 percent of all electricity in the United States, 21 percent in Britain, 24 percent in Japan, 31 percent in the FRG, and 65 percent in France.

But where are nuclear stations to be built? Following the Chernobyl accident, the opinion of quite a large category of people was unambiguous: far from the country's densely populated regions -- in deserts, tundra, mountains. But economics has its laws. If AES's are moved to remote regions, the stations will lose their advantages. [paragraph continues]

The cost of building them will increase considerably, and some of the power generated will be lost during transmission to the center (up to 8.5 percent per 1,000 km). Moreover, a reactor of uncertain reliability cannot be operated in sparsely populated regions either.

Nonetheless, the accident at Chernobyl changed our ideas about the siting and construction of AES's. Practice teaches that there are no trifles in these questions.

In the construction of the Rovno AES, for example, it was decided to economize on geological surveying. They began building the station on karst ground. The result was that millions of rubles extra had to be invested in strengthening the ground -- which, naturally, considerably delayed the commissioning of the next power units. The proximity of the Rovno and Ignalina AES's to faults in the European platform sharply increases demands on seismic stability and, thus, makes them more costly. The Leningrad and Ignalina AES's have been constructed in regions where there is a clear surplus of electricity, and so it was necessary, simultaneously with their construction, to extend power transmission lines into other regions.

These examples indicate that a qualitatively new approach to preplanning and planning development in nuclear power generation is now needed. It costs the state a very great deal to eliminate mistakes committed at those stages. Plans for siting AES's must be coordinated comprehensively and in advance with the plans for the development of the entire national economy and of electricity- and heat-intensive production facilities, established energy requirements must be taken into account, and questions of ensuring safety must be thought through carefully. One of the chief tasks here is to improve reactor safety. Much has been done in this direction, but no less remains to be done.

The gas-cooled reactors now being developed are, in my view, the most promising: the high-temperature reactor and the improved heavy-water reactor with prestressed ferroconcrete vessels. Their creation was held back for a long time, and now it is necessary to make up for lost time more quickly. The first experimental-industrial models are to be created already in the 13th 5-Year Plan. This is all the more important because they are superior to existing reactors as regards many indicators. Work on improving water-moderated, water-cooled reactors -- on enlarging the unit capacity of the power unit, on technical and economic characteristics, and, particularly, on taking the lessons of the Chernobyl accident into account -- must be significantly accelerated, bearing in mind that this type of reactor will constitute the basis of nuclear power generation for a long time to come.

To improve the safety of existing stations it is also necessary to create special electronic information gathering and analyzing systems to diagnose the condition of the reactor and its individual elements in the process of operation, as well as to issue recommendations to operators on the action to be taken in emergency situations. Such systems must be equipped with a data bank on Soviet and foreign accidents.

Today special attention must be devoted to the practical embodiment of AES projects. There are still many problems here. According to the data of the Ministry of Power and Electrification's "Atomteploelektroproyekt" Institute, during 1980-1984 some 41 percent of AES drawings were altered in the process of construction. This induces feverish construction work.

A scientific and technical conference held in Volgodonsk in 1985 cited examples where, although there was equipment worth tens of millions of rubles on an AES construction site, work was halted because machine-building plants had supplied it in violation of construction technology because they found it advantageous and convenient to do so. And that was followed by storm tactics on the construction site and a decline in work quality. It also takes a long time, as a rule, to bring power units up to their set capacity. Against a normative construction time of 5 years for a power unit with a capacity of 1 million kilowatts, it takes 7-10 years to construct units. At the same time in Japan, for example, power units have begun to be commissioned in 3 years and 3 months by means of appropriate organization of construction work.

The quality of the manufacture and use of equipment must be sharply enhanced. Safety interests insistently demand this. The formation of the new Ministry of Nuclear Power Generation creates the necessary preconditions for fundamentally changing matters in this sphere.

Many problems face nuclear power generation today. But I take an optimistic view of its development prospects. Having solved the corresponding safety questions, we will undoubtedly embark on the more comprehensive use of nuclear power. First of all, we will make thrifty use of the electricity and heat generated at AES's. One direction in this work is the creation at AES's of so-called biological energy complexes, which use the heat that at present is simply discharged with the water. The biological energy complexes could encompass heated and irrigated plots of land from which several harvests per year could be obtained. The complexes include hothouses, fish nurseries, and fattening centers. Here the land around an AES in not only kept in agricultural circulation but becomes a year-round supplier of vegetables, berries, mushrooms, fish, meat, and other agricultural products. A closed undersoil cooling system at an AES will make it possible also to cut water consumption and reduce demands with regard to connecting the station to major water arteries...

All the preconditions already exist for making nuclear power generation an important factor in ensuring the country's socioeconomic development plans at the turn of the century.

Commentary by Academician V.A. Legasov, Deputy Director of the I.V. Kurchatov Atomic Energy Institute [subhead]

Accidents that have occurred at nuclear power stations in various countries have aroused natural human emotions, including doubts about the expediency of developing nuclear power generation and fears associated with the possibility of such a thing being repeated. What is important now, therefore, is objective information that will enable everyone to form his own idea of the role AES's already play in our life and the role they still have to play.

Is it possible to solve the energy problems of the country and the world by using all accessible energy resources and, at the same time, abandoning irrational waste of energy — without nuclear fuel? Will people's safety increase in this case, or will it be diminished by the need to extract, transport, and burn tremendous amounts of organic fuel, polluting the water and the air both with chemical discharges and with the long-lived radioactive isotopes stored in coal seams? These important questions have been touched on in the thoughts of Doctor of Technical Sciences Yu.I. Bublik.

It is obvious that the subsequent development of nuclear power generation, given any rates and structures of this development, is inconceivable without constantly improving safety systems. I wish to stress once again the frequently forgotten fact that the safety of an AES is ensurd only by the overall correct and accurate work of all its creators and operating personnel. [paragraph continues]

Any project that has been well thought through from positions of safety could become defective if instruments and equipment with reduced reliability are supplied during its realization. This places special responsibility on those who work in the nuclear industry. The concept of reliability must also characterize the standard of training and operating of the personnel of the station itself.

Yuriy Ivanovich Bublik assesses the promising types of nuclear reactors that have been under development in our country in recent years both from the positions of their technological potential and from the positions of enhanced security. Of course, there are more such developments, and the aspect of reactors of future generations will be determined in the discussions and actions of specialists. But the author has the right to his own predilections and assessments which, on the whole, correctly reflect the problems of nuclear power generation today.

It only remains to add that nuclear power generation means not only AES's but also the large complex of enterprises connected with the manufacture, transportation, and storage of nuclear fuel, the processing of irradiated materials, the burying of some radioactive waste, and the utilization of other radioactive waste. Many tasks must also be resolved in this part of the nuclear fuel cycle in the name of enhancing the economy and safety of nuclear power generation.

IZVESTIYA VIEWS OIL SECTOR USE OF NUCLEAR BLASTS

PM071359 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 May 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Report by correspondents A. Blokhnin and A. Pashkov: "Peaceful Atomic Explosions at Work"; first two paragraphs attributed to TASS; quotation marks as published]

[Text] On 19 April at 0800 Moscow time two underground nuclear explosions with a yield of up to [do] 20 kilotons were carried out in the Soviet Union's Perm Oblast.

The explosions in question were carried out in the interests of the national economy. (TASS)

IZVESTIYA's correspondent [as published] talked with N. Kobyakov, chief engineer of the "Permneft" Production Association -- for it is precisely the oilmen who have turned to the peaceful atom for help.

"The explosions were carried out in the north of the oblast, where there are petroleum deposits not easily accessible using normal methods of extraction. The petroleum bed is fragmented into isolated seams from which it is unprofitable to extract the petroleum. It is equivalent to looking for a needle in a haystack. Usually only 20 percent of the petroleum from such seams can be brought to the surface. The explosion destroys the walls of the "lenses." The minideposits combine to create as it were a single reservoir of petroleum which can be exploited to the full.

Formerly, gunpowder was used to create an explosion, but it is insufficiently effective -- although during the 11th 5-Year Plan an additional 60,000 tonnes of oil was extracted using the "gunpowder" treatment of oil-bearing strata.

I want to emphasize that the explosions are carried out at a great depth and that the bore hole is safely plugged. As was envisaged, any harmful effect on the natural environment was completely excluded. Research and the assembly of the preliminary data are now under way, which will enable us to obtain a more precise impression of this method's effectiveness.

We received an additional comment on the peaceful use of atomic energy in the bowels of the earth from specialists at the Moscow I.M. Gubkin Institute of the Petrochemical and Gas Industry and the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry.

"It is above all necessary to point out," said E. Bakirov, doctor of geological and mineralogical sciences and honored figure of science and technology, "that, as in electric power engineering, the Soviet Union is a pioneer in the use of subterranean nuclear explosions whose aim is the intensification of gas and petroleum extraction. We carried out the first such explosions in the middle of the 1960s. The Eighth World Petroleum Congress, held in Moscow in 1971, heard two extensive reports on this problem given by Soviet and U.S. specialists. Incidentally, by that time the Americans had also carried out four subterranean nuclear explosions at gas fields.

However, work in general on the program to use subterranean nuclear explosions to exploit elusive stocks of petroleum and gas from solid petroleum asphalt was initiated in our country in the second half of the 1950s. The experience accumulated allowed the publication of a book on this problem "The Use of Subterranean Explosions in the Petroleum Industry."

"Of course, with such experiments and innovations in extraction technology" -- here V. Filanovsky, first deputy minister of the petroleum industry, joins the conversation -- "people (especially those who work directly in the oil fields) must be convinced of the full radiation safety of subterranean nuclear explosions. Exact calculations and forecasts and detailed preliminary survey work can and must guarantee this. Of course, everything associated with radiation is inherently dangerous. But even the bitter lesson of Chernobyl did not force power engineering specialists either in our country or abroad to close down nuclear power stations.

A large group of researchers and scientists is working on the elaboration of petroleum extraction using nuclear technology. And security questions are given top priority in their programs. But today we can say that the fundamental possibility of increasing the extraction of hydrocarbon raw materials from the depths of the earth with the aid of the peaceful atom has already been proved at operational fields. And this is important not only in our time but also and particularly in the more remote future.

End